



A

BY HIS MAJESTY'S COMMAND.

ABSTRACT
OF THE
FIELD EXERCISE
AND
EVOLUTIONS
OF
THE ARMY.

*Adjutant-General's Office, Horse Guards,
1st. Sept., 1834.*



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1839.

GENERAL ORDER.

HORSE GUARDS,
1st. September, 1834.

WITH reference to the System of *Field Exercise and Evolutions*, established by the King's Command, and published to the Army by His Majesty's authority, the General Commanding-in-Chief has deemed it expedient that the following *Abstract* should be prepared from the said work, for the use, information, and guidance of the Non-commissioned Officers of the Army.

His Lordship therefore commands, that every Serjeant of Cavalry and Infantry shall be provided with a copy of this *Abstract*, and that the Rules and Instructions therein contained shall be strictly adhered to.

By command of
His Lordship,
The Commander-in-Chief,
JOHN MACDONALD,
Adjutant General.

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PART I.

INSTRUCTION OF THE RECRUIT.

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THE Instructors, to whom this duty is intrusted, and who are to be answerable for its execution, must possess an accurate knowledge of the part each has to teach, and evince such a clear, firm, and concise manner of conveying their instructions, as will command from the men a perfect attention to their directions. They must allow for the weak capacity of the Recruit; and be patient, not rigorous, where endeavour and good-will are apparent; for quickness is the result of much practice, and ought not at first to be expected.

Recruits must be carried on progressively; they should comprehend one thing before they proceed to another. In the first circumstances of position, the firelock, fingers, elbows, &c., are to be justly placed by the Instructor; when more advanced, they should not be touched, but from the example shewn, and the directions given, be taught to correct themselves, when admonished. Recruits should not be kept too long at any particular part of their exercise, so as to fatigue or make them uneasy, and marching without arms should be much intermixed with the firelock instruction. Neither fife, nor music, must on any account be used; it being essential to confirm the Recruit by habit alone in that cadence of step which he is afterwards to maintain in his march to the enemy, amidst every variety of noise and circumstance that may tend to derange him.

The habit here adverted to, is acquired by impressing the time upon the Recruit's mind by tap of drum, and no Recruit or squad of Recruits must therefore be permitted to exercise in marching, without the constant use of plummet, drum, and pace-stick; the drum to beat the time only when the squad is halted, never when in motion; whenever the superintendent of the drill sees it necessary to give the time, every squad will instantly be halted at the first tap of the drum, and the recruits be required to give their whole attention to the proper cadence.

In the manner hereafter prescribed, each Recruit must be trained singly, and in successive squads; and until he is perfect in all points of his duty he is not to join the battalion;—for one awkward man, imperfect in his march, or distorted in his person will derange his division, and, of course, operate on the battalion and line in a still more injurious manner. Every soldier, on his return from long absence, must be re-drilled before he is permitted to act in the ranks of his company.

Short and frequent drills are always to be preferred to long lessons, which exhaust the attention both of the Instructor and Recruit; and too much pains cannot be taken by those intrusted with the instruction of Recruits to move them on, progressively from squad to squad according to their merit, so that the quick, intelligent lad may not be kept back by those of inferior capacity. To arrive at the first squad should be made an object of emulation to the young soldier, by diminishing the number and duration of its drills.

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RECRUIT.

WITHOUT ARMS.

SINGLE RANK, AT OPEN ORDER.

OPEN ORDER is taken by each recruit stretching out his right arm and keeping that distance from his right-hand man.

S. 1. *Position of the Soldier.*

THE equal squareness of the shoulders and body to the front is the first and great principle of the position of a soldier. The heels must be in a line, and closed ;—the knees straight ;—the toes turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of 60 degrees ;—the arms hanging close to the body ; the elbows turned in and close to the side ;—the hands open to the front, with the view of preserving the elbow in the indispensable position, as above described, and thereby of preventing false distances when marching in line ;—the little fingers lightly touching the seams of the trowsers, with the thumb close to the fore-finger ;—the belly rather drawn in, and the breast advanced, but without constraint ;—the body upright, but inclining forward, so that the weight of it may principally bear on the fore part of the feet ;—the head to be erect, and the eyes straight to the front.

In order to supple the recruit, open his chest, and give freedom to his muscles, he will be practised in the three first movements of the extension motions as laid down for the Sword Exercise.

Too many methods cannot be used to improve the carriage of the recruit and banish the air of the rustic. But the greatest care must be taken not to throw the body backward instead of forward, as being contrary to every true principle of movement.

N. B. The words in the margin, which are printed in *Italics*, are the words of command to be given by the instructor.

All words of command, and particularly the words *Halt* and *March*, must be given distinctly and loud.

S. 2. *Standing at Ease.*

Stand at Ease.

On the words *Stand at Ease*, the right foot is to be drawn back about six inches, and the greatest part of the weight of the body brought upon it ; the left knee a little bent ; the hands brought together before the body ; the palms being struck smartly together, and that of the right hand then slipped over the back of the left ; but the shoulders to be kept

back and square; the head to the front, and the whole attitude without constraint.

Attention. { On the word *Attention*, the hands are to fall smartly upon the outside of the thighs; the right heel to be brought up in a line with the left; and the proper unconstrained position of a soldier immediately resumed.

When the recruit falls in for instruction, he is first to be taught to place himself on the word *Attention*, in the position above described, to remain perfectly steady, and to give his whole attention to his commander. Before the word *Attention* is given, and occasionally during the time of drill, the recruit may be allowed to rest by *Standing at Ease*, as above explained.

When standing at ease for any considerable time in cold weather, the men are permitted to move their limbs, but without quitting their ground, so that upon the word *Attention*, no one shall have materially lost his dressing in the line. In this case the *Stand at Ease* is given in the tone of a permission and not of command.

S. 3. Eyes to the Right.

Eyes Right. { On the word *Eyes Right*, glance the eyes to the right with a slight turn of the head. At the words
Eyes Left. { *Eyes Left*, cast the eyes in like manner to the left.
Eyes Front. { On the words *Eyes Front*, the look and head are to be directly to the front, the habitual position of the soldier.

These motions are useful on the wheeling of divisions,—or in closing to a flank,—or when dressing is ordered after a halt; and particular attention must be paid, in the several turnings of the eyes, to prevent the soldier from moving his body, which must be preserved perfectly square to the front; but in all marches to the front the recruit, at open order, must be taught to select objects in his front and to march straight upon them;—at close order, the touch, with the preservation of a uniform and proper cadence, must form his only guide in marching.

S. 4. The Facings.

In going through the facings, the left heel never quits the ground; the body must rather incline forward, and the knees be kept straight.

To the Right, { 1st. Place the hollow of the right foot smartly against the left heel, keeping the shoulders square to the front.
Face. { 2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the right on both heels.

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*To the Left,
Face.*

1st. Place the right heel against the hollow of the left foot, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the left on both heels.

*To the Right
about, Face.*

1st. Place the ball of the right toe against the left heel, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the right about on both heels.

3rd. Bring the right foot smartly back in a line with the left.

*To the Left
about, Face.*

1st. Place the right heel against the ball of the left toe, keeping the shoulders square to the front.

2nd. Raise the toes, and turn to the left about on both heels.

3rd. Bring up the right smartly in a line with the left.

*Right, or
left, half
face.*

On the word of command *Right or Left Half Face*, each man will make an exact half face, as directed, by drawing back or advancing the right foot one inch, by which the whole will stand individually in echelon.

Front.

When it is intended to resume the original front, the word of command *Front*, will be given, and the whole will face, as accurately as possible, to their former front.

*Right or left
about, three-
quarters
face.*

When it is necessary to perform the diagonal march to the rear, the recruit will receive the word *Right (or Left) about, three-quarters face*, upon which he brings the ball of the right foot (not the ball of the toe) to the left heel, or the right heel to the ball of the left foot, and makes a three-quarters face in the given direction. Upon the word *Front*, if he has faced to the right he fronts to the left; and if he has faced to the left, he fronts to the right.

The feet in the first of the above motions are to be slipped back or brought forward without a jerk; the movement being from the hip, so that the body is kept perfectly steady until faced.

The greatest precision must be observed in these facings, for if they are not exactly executed, a body of men, after being properly dressed, will lose their dressing on every small movement of facing.

S. 5. Position in Marching.

In marching, the soldier must maintain the position of the body as

directed in Sect. 1. He must be well balanced on his limbs. His arms and hands must be kept perfectly steady by his sides, and on no account be suffered to move or vibrate; care must be taken that the hand does not cling to the thigh, or partake in the least degree of the movement of the limb. The body must be kept erect and square to the front. The movement of the leg and thigh must spring from the haunch, and be free and natural. The foot must be raised sufficiently high to clear the ground without grazing it, carried straight to the front, and, without being drawn back, placed softly on the ground, so as not to jerk or shake the body in the slightest degree. The head to be kept well up, and straight to the front, and the eyes not to be turned to the right or left.

Balance Step.

The recruit being placed in the position of the soldier, as above described, is instructed in the balance step, the object of which is to teach him the free movement of his limbs, preserving at the same time perfect squareness of shoulders, with the utmost steadiness of body, and no labor must be spared to attain this first and most essential object, which forms indeed the very foundation of good marching. The instructor must be careful that the recruit does not contract a habit of drooping or throwing back a shoulder at these motions, which are intended practically to shew the true principles of marching, and that steadiness of body is compatible with perfect freedom in the limbs.

1st. Without gaining Ground.

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| <i>Caution.</i> | { | Balance step without gaining ground, commencing with the left foot. |
| <i>Front.</i> | { | The left foot is brought gently forward with the toe at the proper angle to the left, the foot about three inches from the ground, the left heel in line with the toe of the right foot. |
| <i>Rear.</i> | { | When steady the left foot is brought gently back (without a jerk) the left knee a little bent, the left toe brought close to the right heel. The left foot in this position will not be so flat as to the front, as the toe will be a little depressed. |
| <i>Front.</i> | { | When steady, the word <i>Front</i> will be given as above, and repeated to the <i>Rear</i> three or four times; to prevent the recruits being fatigued, the word |
| <i>Halt.</i> | { | <i>Halt</i> will be given, when the left foot, either advanced, or to the rear, will be brought to the right. |

The instructor will afterwards make the recruit balance upon the left foot, advancing and retiring the right in the same manner.

2ndly. Gaining Ground by the word *Forward*.

Front.

On the word *Front*, the left foot is brought gently to the front without a jerk; the knee to be gradually straightened as the foot is brought forward, the toe turned out a little to the left and remaining about three inches from the ground. In this posture he remains for a few seconds only in the first instance, till practice has steadied him in the position.

Forward.

On this word of command, the left foot is brought to the ground, at 30 inches from heel to heel, while the right foot is raised at the same moment, and continues extended to the rear. The body remains upright, but inclining forward; the head erect, and neither turned to the right nor left.

Front.

On the word *Front*, the right foot is brought forward, and so on.

S. 6. *Slow Step*.

March.

On the word *March*, the left foot is carried 30 inches to the front, and without being drawn back is placed softly on the ground so as not to jerk or shake the body; the recruit is to be taught to take 75 of these steps in a minute.

The recruit must be carefully trained, and thoroughly instructed in this step, as an essential foundation for arriving at accuracy in the paces of more celerity. This is the slowest step at which troops are to move.

S. 7. *The Halt*.

Halt.

On the word *Halt*, let the rear foot be brought upon a line with the advanced one, so as to finish the step which was being taken when the command was given.

N. B. The words *Halt, dress*—to be considered as one word of command.

Three or four recruits will now be formed in one rank at open distance, and instructed as follows.

S. 8. Stepping Out.

Step Out. { The squad marches, as already directed, in slow time. On the word *Step out*, the recruit must be taught to lengthen his step to 33 inches, by leaning forward a little, but without altering the cadence.

This step is necessary, when a temporary exertion in line, and to the front, is required; and is applied both to slow and quick time; and at the word (slow or quick step) the pace of 30 inches must be resumed.

S. 9. Stepping Short.

Step Short. { On the word *Step short*, the foot advancing will finish its pace, and afterwards each recruit will step as far as the ball of his toe, and no farther, until the word *Forward* be given, when the usual pace of 30 inches is to be taken.

This step is useful when a momentary retardment of either a battalion in line, or of a division in column, shall be required.

S. 10. Marking Time.

Mark Time. { On the words *Mark Time*, the foot then advancing completes its pace, after which the cadence is continued, without gaining any ground, but alternately throwing out the foot and bringing it back square with the other. At the word *Forward*, the usual pace of 30 inches will be taken.

This step is necessary when a column, division, &c., on the march, has to wait for the coming-up of others.

S. 11. The Side or Closing Step.

The side or closing step is performed from the halt in quick time, by the following commands:

Right Close—Quick March.

Left Close—Quick March.

Right Close, Quick March. { In closing to the right, on the word *Quick March*, eyes are turned to the right, and each man carries his right foot about 10 inches directly to his right, (or, if the files are closed, to his neighbour's left foot,) and instantly brings up his left foot, till the heel touches his right heel, and proceeds to take the next step in the same manner; the whole with perfect precision of time, shoulders kept square.

RECRUIT—*Without Arms.*

9

Halt.

knees not bent, and in the true line on which the body is formed. At the word *Halt*, the whole halt, turn their eyes to the front, and are perfectly steady. (Vide S. 3, Part II.)

NOTE.—In closing on rough or broken ground the knees must necessarily be bent.

S. 12. *Stepping Back.*

*Step Back,
March.*

Halt.

The *Step Back* is performed in the slow time and pace of 30 inches, from the halt. On the command *Step Back—March*, the recruit must be taught to move straight to the rear, preserving his shoulders square to the front, and his body erect. On the word *Halt*, the foot in front must be brought back square with the other.

A few paces only of the *Step Back* can be necessary at a time.

S. 13. *Changing the Feet.*

Change Feet.

To change the feet in marching, the advanced foot completes its pace, the ball of the other is brought up quickly to the heel of the advanced one, which instantly makes another step forward, so that the cadence may not be lost.

This may be required of an individual, who is stepping with a different foot from the rest of his division; in doing which he will in fact take two successive steps with the same foot.

S. 14. *Oblique Step.*

*To the Left
Oblique
March.*

Two.

When the recruit has acquired the regular length and cadence of the slow pace, he is to be taught the oblique step. At the words *To the Left oblique. March*, without altering his personal squareness of position, he will, when he is to step with his left foot, point and carry it forward 19 inches in the diagonal line, to the left, which gives about 13 inches to the side, and about 13 inches to the front. On the word *Two*, he will bring his right foot 30 inches forward, so that the right heel be placed 13 inches directly before the left one. In this position he will pause, and on the word *Two*, continue to march, as before directed, by advancing his left foot 19 inches, pausing at each step till confirmed in his position; it being essentially necessary to take the greatest care that his shoulders be pre-

served square to the front. From the combination of these two movements, the general obliquity gained will amount to an angle of about 25 degrees. When the recruit is habituated to the lengths and directions of the step, he must be made to continue the march, without pausing, and with firmness: when he has been made perfect in the oblique step in slow time, he must be instructed in quick time on the same principle.

As all marching (the side step excepted) invariably begins with the left foot, whether the obliquing commences from the halt or on the march, the first diagonal step taken is by the leading foot of the side inclined to, when it comes to its turn, after the command is pronounced.

The squareness of the person, and the habitual cadenced step, in consequence, are the great directions of the oblique, as well as of the direct march.

Each recruit should be separately and carefully instructed in the principles of the foregoing sections of the drill. They form the basis of all military movements.

S. 15. *The Quick Step.*

The cadence of the slow pace having become perfectly habitual to the recruits, they are now to be taught to march in *quick* time which is 108 steps in a minute, each of 30 inches, making 270 feet in a minute.

Quick, March.

{ The command *Quick, March*, being given with a pause between them, the word *Quick* is to be considered as a caution, and the whole to remain perfectly steady. On the word *March*, the whole move off, conforming to the directions given in Sec. 5.

After the recruit is perfectly grounded in marching to the front in quick time, all the alterations of step, as above, for slow time, must be practised in the quick time.

This is the pace which will be applied generally to all movements by large as well as small bodies of troops; and therefore the recruit must be trained and thoroughly instructed in this essential part of his duty.

S. 16. *The Double March.*

The directions for the march, in the preceding Section, apply in a great degree to this step, which is 150 steps in the minute, each of 36 inches, making 450 feet in a minute.

Double March.

On the word *Double March*, the whole step off together with the left feet; keeping the heads erect, and the shoulders square to the front; the knees are a little bent; the body is more advanced than in the other marches; the arms hang with ease down the outside of the thigh. The instructor will be careful to habituate the recruit to the full pace of 36 inches, otherwise he will get into the habit of a short trot, which would defeat the obvious advantages of this degree of march.

Halt.

As directed in Section 7.

The word *March*, given singly, at all times denotes that *slow time* is to be taken; when the *Quick*, or *Double March* is meant, the words *Quick*, or *Double*, as a caution, will precede the word *March*.

The great advantage attending the constant use of the plummet must be obvious; and the several lengths swinging the times of the different marches in a minute, are as follows:

		In.	Hun.
Slow time.....	75 steps in the minute	24	96
Quick time.....	108	12	03
Double March.....	150	6	26

A musket ball suspended by a string which is not subject to stretch, and on which are marked the different required lengths, will answer the above purpose, may be easily acquired, and should be frequently compared with an accurate standard in the adjutant's possession.—The length of the plummet is to be measured from the point of suspension to the centre of the ball.

SINGLE RANK AT CLOSE ORDER.

Six or eight recruits will now be formed in rank at close files, having a steady well drilled soldier on their flank to lead, and will then be carefully instructed in *the touch*, which in close order constitutes the principal guide and regulator in marching. Each man, when properly in line, should feel his right or left hand man (towards the point of direction) at the thick part of the arm immediately below the elbow, which must continue turned in and close to the side. The fingers are kept straight, the thumb close to the fore-finger, the thumb and fore-finger in a small degree turned out (in order to keep the elbows close,) the edge of the hand very slightly touching the thigh, and a little behind the seam of the trowsers. The touch must be light, and crowding carefully avoided.

S. 17. *Dressing when Halted.**Dress.*

Dressing is to be taught equally by the left as by the right. On the word *Dress*, each individual will cast his eyes to the point to which he is ordered to dress, with a slight turn of the head, but preserving the shoulders and body square to their front. The whole person of the man must move as may be necessary, and bending backward or forward is not to be permitted. He must take short quick steps thereby gradually and exactly to gain his position and on no account be suffered to attempt it by any sudden or violent alteration, which must infallibly derange whatever is beyond him. The faces of the men, and not their breasts or feet, are the line of dressing. Each man is to be able just to distinguish the lower part of the face of the second man beyond him.

In dressing, the eyes of the men are always turned to the officer who gives the word *Dress*; and who is posted at the point by which the body halts; and who from that point corrects his men, on a point at or beyond his opposite flank.

The faults to be avoided, and generally committed by the soldier in dressing, are, passing the line; the head too forward, and body kept back; the shoulders not square; the head turned too much.

With a view to establish more exactly the principles on which dressing depends, the following instructions in the drill of Recruits will be observed.

*By the Right,
(or Left)
Forward
Dress.*

The right hand man will be moved up a pace and a quarter (or half,) and another soldier, as a second point, four paces to his right, while the left-hand man, or any other person, serves as a corresponding point for the instructor upon the left. The instructor will then give the word *No. 2, by the right forward Dress*, when the second recruit will take a pace to the front with the left foot, and shuffle up into line with the two points on his right, taking up his touch and dressing at the same time; the instructor, standing clear to the right of the two points when he sees that the recruit is properly dressed and the touch perfect, gives the word *Eyes Front* that heads may be replaced and remain square to the front.

Eyes Front.

*By the Right
(or Left)
Backward
Dress.*

When every recruit individually has practised and is perfect in his dressing up, both by right and left forward, he must be taught to dress back by the right and left in the same manner.

The instructor will then cause two or three recruits to dress up and back together, taking care that the touch is always preserved, and afterwards the whole squad together.

No rank, or body, ought ever to be dressed, without the person on its flank appointed to dress it, determining, or at least supposing a line, on which the rank, or body is to be formed, and for that purpose making as his object the distant flank man, or a point beyond such flank, or a man thrown out on purpose; dressing must then be made gradually, and progressively, from the fixed point, towards the flank one; and each man successively, but quickly, must be brought up into the true line, so as to become a new point, from whence the person directing proceeds in the correction of the others; and he himself, when so directing, must take care that his person, or his eyes at least, be in the true line which he is then giving.

S. 18. File Marching.

The recruits must first *face*, and then be instructed to cover each other exactly in file, so that the head of the man immediately before may conceal the heads of all the others in his front. The strictest observance of all the rules for marching is particularly necessary in marching by files, which is first to be taught at the *slow time*, and afterwards in *quick time*.

*To the —
face.*

March.

On the word *March*, the whole are immediately to step off together, gaining at the first step 30 inches, and so continuing each step without increasing the distance between each recruit, every man looking or placing his advanced foot on the ground, before the spot from whence his preceding man had taken up his. No looking down nor leaning backward, is to be suffered, on any pretence whatever. The leader is to be directed to march straight forward on some distant objects given him for that purpose, and the recruits made to cover one another during the march, with the most scrupulous exactness; great attention must be paid to prevent them from opening out and losing their compact formation.

S. 19. *Wheeling of a Single Rank, in Slow Time from the Halt.*

Right wheel.

March.

Halt, Dress.

Eyes front.

At the word *Right wheel*, the man on the right of the rank faces to the right; on the word *March* they step off together, the whole turning their eye to the left (the wheeling or outward flank), except the man on the left of the rank, who looks inward and, during the wheel, becomes a kind of base line for the others to conform to, and maintain the uniformity of front. The outward wheeling man steps the usual pace of 30 inches, the whole observe the same time, but each man shortening his step in proportion as he is nearer to the standing flank on which the wheel is made. During the wheel, the whole remain closed to the standing flank; that is they touch, without incommoding their neighbour they must not stoop forward, but remain upright opening out from the standing flank is to be avoided; closing in upon it during the wheel, is to be resisted. On the word *Halt, Dress*, each man halts immediately, without pressing forward. The dressing being completed, the squad receives the command *Eyes front*.

When the recruits are able to perform the wheel with accuracy in the *slow time*, they must be practised in *quick time*.

Nothing will tend sooner to enable the recruit to acquire the proper length of step, according to his distance from the pivot, than continuing the wheel without halting for several revolutions of the circle, and also giving the word *Halt, Dress*, at instants not expected and when only a 6th, 8th, or any smaller proportion of the circle is completed.

S. 20. *Wheeling backwards, a single Rank.*

*On the Right,
backwards
Wheel.*

Quick March.

At the words *On the Right, backwards Wheel* the man on the right of the rank faces to his left. At the word *Quick March*, the whole step backward in quick time, dressing by the outward wheeling man; those nearest the pivot man making their steps extremely small, and those towards the wheeling man increasing them as they are placed nearer to him. The recruit in this wheel must not bend forward, nor be suffered to look down; but

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Halt.

Dress.

The recruits should be first practised to wheel backwards at the slow step; and at all times it will be necessary to prevent them from hurrying the pace; an error soldiers are very liable to fall into, particularly in wheeling backwards.

S. 21. Changing the direction, by the wheel of a single Rank on a moveable pivot.

*Right (or left)
Shoulders
forward.*

Forward.

When the rank is marching to the front, and is ordered to change its direction to either flank, it receives the word *Right (or Left) Shoulders forward*; upon which the outward file of the named flank continues to step out at the full pace, and the wheel is performed (according to the principle explained in Section 20) upon the inner file of the other flank, which brings the shoulder gradually round—and gaining ground sufficient to circle round the wheeling point (where such is given), marks time, until it receives the word *Forward*; but the wheel on the moveable pivot is always made at the same time at which the body may be moving. The commander gives the word *Forward*, when he sees that the rank has gained the front on which he intends it to move in a perpendicular direction.

S. 22. Oblique Marching in Front

Right oblique.

When the squad is marching in front and receives the word *To the Right oblique*; each man, the first time he raises the right foot, will, instead of throwing it straight forward, carry it in the diagonal direction, as has been already explained in Section 14, taking care not to alter the position of his body, shoulders or head. The greatest attention is to be paid to the shoulders of every man in the squad, that they remain parallel to the line on which they first were placed, and that the right shoulders do not fall to the rear, which they are very apt to do in obliquing to the right, and which immediately changes the direction of the front. On the word

Forward.

Forward, the incline ceases, and the whole march forward. In obliquing to the left, the same rules are to be observed, with the difference of the left leg going to the left, and attention to keep up the left shoulder.

The same instructions that are given for slow time serve also for quick time.

In obliquing to the right, the touch must be preserved to the left, and *vice versa*, excepting in the obliquing of a battalion, when the touch must always be to the centre.

S. 23. Diagonal March.

Right (or Left) half face.

March.

Halt, Front.

Right (or Left) half turn.

Front turn.

This march will be commenced from the halt, by giving the command *Right (or Left) half face*, as described in Sect. 4, and on the word *March*, the men move on the diagonal lines upon which they are individually placed in echelon. Upon the command *Halt front*, the original front is resumed. When the squad is marching to the front and it is desired to take an oblique direction, the word *Right (or Left) half turn* is given, and the men move as above prescribed—and when it is intended to move to the original front without halting, the word *Front turn* is given, when each man will turn his body to the front and move forwards without checking the pace.

When the movement is performed to the left, the reverse of the foregoing instructions will take place.

During the diagonal march the leading flank will be the pivot for the time being; for instance, when a squad or company is moving by the right half turn, the right-hand man must pay particular attention to the length of pace, and to move perpendicular to the line he took up when he made his half turn, as the accuracy of his movement will assist very much in preserving the division in its proper position. The other files must be careful that their right arms do not get beyond the centre of the men's backs who precede them in echelon, and if they keep this position, their right feet will just clear the left of the preceding file.

WITH ARMS.

S. 24. *Position of the Soldier.*

WHEN the firelock is shouldered, the person of the soldier remains in the position described under the head of *Close Order*, except that the wrist of the left hand is turned a little out, the better to embrace the butt. The firelock is placed in the hand, with the two first joints of the fingers grasping the inside of the butt, the thumb alone to appear in front. The piece must be carried at the full length of the arm, the butt a little forward, the fore part nearly even with that of the thigh; the hind part of it lightly touching the thigh, when stationary, without being in the least degree affected by it when in motion. The firelock will rest upon the hollow of the shoulder, and be held firm and steady.

S. 25. *Different motions of the Firelock.*

The following motions of the firelock will be taught and practised here set down, until each recruit is perfect in them; they being necessary for the ease of the soldier in the course of exercise.

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| As mentioned
in the manual
Exercise. | { | Supporting arms. |
| | | Sloping arms. |
| | | Carrying arms. |
| | | Ordering arms. |
| | | Standing at ease. |
| | | Attention. |
| | | Shouldering from the order. |

The recruit must be accustomed to *carry* his arms for a considerable time together; it is most essential he should do so, and not be allowed to *support* or *slope* them so often as is practised, under the idea that long *carrying* them is a position of too much constraint.

A company or battalion is never to come to the HALT, or FORM IN LINE, or to dress, (which are situations where the greatest accuracy of front is required,) but with *carried arms*. When troops are in motion, arms may be sloped by word of command; and it must here be observed, that when this is the case, the touch to the firelock arm must be kept by the elbow. It is to be understood, as a general rule, that in the double march, as the men make the first step, they slope arms, without any separate word of command; on being halted, arms are instantly carried in the same manner.

S. 26. *Attention in forming the Squad.*

When the SQUAD or division (consisting of from six to eight files)

falls in, each man, with *carried arms*, will take his place in his rank, beginning from the flank to which he is ordered to form; he will dress himself in line by the rule already given, assume the ordered position of a soldier, and stand perfectly steady. Attention must be paid that the files are correctly closed; that the men in the rear rank cover well, looking their file leaders in the middle of the neck; that the rear rank has its proper distance of one pace (30 inches) from the front rank, and that both ranks are equally well dressed.

S. 27. *Open Order.*

Rear Rank,
take Open
Order.

March.

The recruits being formed in two ranks at close order, on the word *Rear Rank take Open Order*, the flank men on the right and left of the rear rank step briskly back one pace, face to their right, and stand covered, to mark the ground on which the rear rank is to halt, and dress at open order; every other individual remains ready to move. On the word *March*, the dressers front, and the rear rank steps back one pace, dressing by the right.

S. 28. *Close Order.*

Rear rank take
Close Order.
March.

On the word *Rear Rank take Close Order*, the whole remain perfectly steady; at the word *March*, the rank closes within one pace.

S. 29. THE MANUAL EXERCISE.

1st.
Secure Arms.

1st. Bring the right hand briskly up, and place it under the cock, the forefinger touching the back part of it, the thumb placed between the stock and barrel, and pointing to the muzzle, keeping the fire-lock steady.

2nd. Quit the butt with the left hand, and seize the fire-lock with it at the swell, bringing the elbow close down upon the lock, carefully avoiding to raise or lower the shoulder; the right hand kept fast in this motion, and the piece still upright.

3rd. Quit the right hand, giving the piece a cant with the fore-fingers, and bring it down to your right side, bringing the fire-lock down to the *secure*, under the left arm, the elbow thrown a little to the rear, the guard *just* visible, the thumb on the sling, the fingers grasping the barrel, and the hand rather below the hip bone.

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2nd. *Shoulder Arms.*

1st. Bring the fire-lock up to the perpendicular line, seizing it with the right hand under the cock, as the first motion of the *secure*.

2nd. Quit the left hand, and strike the butt with the palm, grasping it at the same instant.

3rd. Quit the right hand, and bring it smartly down to the right side.

3rd. *Order Arms.*

1st. Seize the fire-lock with the right hand at the lower loop, just at the swell, the elbow close to the body.

2nd. Bring it down to the right side, to the *trail*, allowing little finger to slip between the stock and barrel, the butt as low down as the arm will admit without constraint.

3rd. Drop the heel of it on the ground, placing the muzzle against the hollow of the right shoulder, and the hand flat upon the side of the stock; the thumb only to appear on the sling.

4th. *Fix Bayonets.*

1st. At the word *Fix*, place the thumb of the right hand, as quick as possible, behind the barrel.

2nd. As soon as the word of command is fully given, take a gripe of the fire-lock, and push the muzzle a little forward, grasping the bayonet with the left hand, the elbow kept well forward so as not to interfere with the left-hand man, and fixing it with the utmost celerity. The instant this is done, return, as quick as possible, to the order, as above described, and stand perfectly steady.

5th. *Shoulder Arms.*

1st. As soon as the word *Shoulder* is given, take a gripe of the fire-lock with the right hand, as in fixing bayonets.

2nd. At the last word, *Arms*, the fire-lock must be thrown, with the right hand, in one motion, with as little appearance of effort as possible, into its proper position on the left shoulder. The hand crosses the body in so doing, but must instantly be withdrawn.

6th. *Present Arms.*

1st. Seize the firelock with the right hand, under the guard, turning the lock to the front, but without moving it from the shoulder.

2nd. Raise the fire-lock up from the shoulder to the *poise*, by placing the left hand (smartly and

with a tell,) upon the sling, fingers pointing upwards; the wrist upon the guard, and the point of the left thumb of equal height with, and pointing to the left eye: the piece to be kept perpendicular in this position, the left elbow close to the butt, and right elbow close to the body.

3rd. Bring down the fire-lock with a quick motion, as low as the right hand will admit without constraint, making it tell with the left hand, drawing back the right foot at the same instant, so that the hollow of it may touch the left heel. The fire-lock in this position, with the guard to the front, to be totally supported in the left hand, and opposite to the left thigh; the right hand lightly holding the small of the butt; the fingers pointing rather downwards; the body to rest entirely on the left foot; both knees straight.

7th.
Shoulder
Arms.

1st. By a turn of the right wrist, bring the fire-lock to its proper position on the left shoulder, making the motion tell, the left hand grasping the butt, and bringing up the right foot at the same instant to its original position.

2nd. Quit the right hand briskly, and bring it down to the right side.

8th.
Port Arms.

At one motion throw the fire-lock from the shoulder, across the body, meeting it smartly with both hands at the same instant, to a diagonal position, in which the lock is to be turned to the front, and at the height of the breast; the muzzle slanting upwards, so that the barrel may cross opposite the point of the left shoulder, with the butt proportionably depressed.

The right hand grasps the small of the butt, and the left holds the piece at the swell, close to the lower pipe; the thumbs of both hands pointing towards the muzzle; both elbows close to the body, the fingers of the left hand between the stock and barrel.

9th.
Charge
Bayonets.

Make a half-face to the right, the right toe straight off to the right, and the left toe full to the front, and bring down the fire-lock, to nearly a horizontal position, with the muzzle inclining a little

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13th
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10th.
*Shoulder
Arms.*

upwards, and the right wrist resting against the hollow of the thigh below the hip.

1st. Throw the fire-lock up to its proper position on the left shoulder, the left hand falling smartly on the butt, and grasping it, and at the same instant coming to your proper front.

2nd. Quit the right hand smartly, and bring it down to the right side.

11th.
*Advance
Arms.*

1st. Seize the fire-lock with the right hand under the guard, turning the lock to the front, but without moving it from the shoulder.

2nd. Raise the fire-lock up from the shoulder to the poise, by placing the left hand upon the sling, fingers pointing upwards, the wrist upon the guard, and the point of the left thumb of equal height with, and pointing to the left eye; the piece to be kept perpendicular in this position.

3rd. Bring the fire-lock down to the right side with the right hand as low as it will admit without constraint, at the same time striking it smartly with the left hand at the swell, the guard between the thumb and fore-finger of the right hand, the three last fingers under the cock, with the guard to the front.

4th. Quit the left hand.

12th.
Order Arms.

1st. At this word the left hand is brought smartly across the body, and seizes the fire-lock, with the fore-finger in the line with the point of the right shoulder.

2nd. Bring the fire-lock down as low as the left arm will admit to the right side; at the same time let the right hand seize the top of the ramrod, between the second joint of the fore-finger and thumb, the whole of the fingers shut in the hand.

3rd. Let the fire-lock drop on the ground, and the right hand be smartly brought to the position of ordered arms, quitting the left hand short away, at the same instant.

13th.
*Advance
Arms.*

1st. At the word *Advance*, the thumb of the right hand is slipt quickly in rear of the barrel.

At the word *Arms*, it is brought to the advance by a sharp cant of the right hand; the left arm is

14th.
*Shoulder
Arms.*

brought across the body, to steady the fire-lock to the shoulder.

2nd. Quit the left hand.

1st. Bring up the left hand and seize the piece at the swell, raising it about one inch; at the same instant slip the thumb of the right hand under the cock, by a turn of the right wrist.

2nd. Throw it smartly to its proper position on the left shoulder, the left hand falling smartly on the butt, grasping it.

3rd. Quit the right hand, and bring it to the right side.

N. B.—In these motions great care must be taken to preserve the squareness of the body, and to avoid raising or sinking the shoulder.

15th.
Support Arms.

1st. Seize the small of the butt, under the lock, with the right hand the thumb pointing upwards.

2nd. Bring the left arm under the cock.

3rd. Quit the right hand.

16th.
Stand at Ease.

At this word of command the right hand is brought smartly across the body, and seizes the fire-lock at the small of the butt, close up under the left arm, with the thumb of the right hand pointing upwards, the right foot drawn back, the left knee bent, and the fire-lock a little sloped.

17th.
Attention.

At this word of command the right hand is dropped smartly to the right side, and the right foot brought in line with the left.

18th.
Carry Arms.

1st. Seize the small of the butt under the left arm, with the right hand.

2nd. Smartly place the left hand grasping the butt, the fire-lock kept steady.

3rd. Quit the right hand.

At the same instant allowing the left arm to sink to the full extent.

19th.
Slope Arms.

In sloping arms the upper part of the arm is not to move, the guard of the fire-lock is to be raised so as gently to press against the hollow of the shoulder, the hand in a line with the elbow, the toe of the butt in a line with the centre of the left thigh.

20th.
Stand at Ease.

On the word *Ease* bring the right hand smartly across the body, placing it on the left hand, both

21st.
Attention.

22nd.
Carry Arms.

23rd.
Order Arms.

24th.
Unfix Bayonet.

25th.
Stand at

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} thumbs on the fore part of the heel of the butt,
that of the left hand uppermost, and drawing the
right foot back at the same instant, the left knee
bent.

21st.
Attention.

} At this word of command resume the attitude of
attention, by bringing the right hand smartly to the
right side, and the right foot in line with the left.

22nd.
Carry Arms.

} 1st. Drop the left arm to its extent, and bring
the right hand smartly across the body; the fore
part of the fingers to meet the small of the butt, as
in the first motion of the "Secure."

2nd. Quit the right hand.

23rd.
Order Arms.

} As prescribed in page 17.

24th.
*Unfix
Bayonets.*

} At the word *Unfix*, slip the thumb of the right
hand in rear of the barrel; at the last sound of the
word *Bayonet*, force the muzzle a little forward,
bring the left hand smartly to the upper loop, the
thumb pointing upwards. Strike the bow of the
bayonet with the heel of the right hand, so as to
unfix it; let the bow fall over the thumb, and the
two fore-fingers on the top of the socket, with the
left hand force the muzzle of the fire-lock back to
its proper position, at the same instant bring the
thumb of the left hand on the top of the scabbard,
for the purpose of guiding the bayonet into it; and
bring the right hand smartly to the position of or-
dered arms.

25th.
Stand at Ease.

} As before directed.

It is to be understood that whenever a battalion in line charges with bayonets, the whole are in the first instance to advance at firm quick step, with shouldered arms; at the word *Prepare to Charge*, the fire-locks of the front rank will be brought to the long trail, and those of the rear rank to the slope—at the word *Charge*, the fire-locks of the front rank will be thrown smartly to the charging position, and the pace increased to double march, carefully avoiding too much hurry. The enemy being routed, it will depend on the officer commanding to give the word *Halt*, when both ranks will shoulder arms, and proceed as may be afterwards directed.

In marching any distance, or in standing at ease when *supported*, the men are allowed to bring their right hand across the body to the

small of the butt, which latter must, in that case, be thrown a little forward; the fingers of the left hand being uppermost, must be placed between the body and the right elbow; the right hands are to be instantly removed, when the division *halts*, or is ordered to *dress* by *the right or left*.

TIME.

The motions in the Manual Exercise are to be performed, leaving one pause of the slow time of march between each motion, except that of *fixing bayonets*, in which a longer time must be given. One pause should also be made between the first and last parts of the words of command; for instance, *shoulder* (one pause) *arms*, both in manual and platoon.

The manual is not to be executed by one word, or signal, but each separate word of command is to be given by the officer who commands the body performing it.

SENTRIES.

Sentries, posted with shouldered arms, are permitted afterwards to *support*, but not to *slope* them. On the approach of an officer, they immediately *carry* their arms, and put themselves into their proper position, which is not to be done at the instant he passes, but by the time he is within twenty yards of their post, so that they may be perfectly steady before he comes up.

Sentries are to *port arms* when challenging any person approaching their posts.

CORPORALS.

Corporals marching with reliefs, or commanding detachments or divisions, are to be on the right, and will carry their arms *advanced*, with bayonets fixed.

METHOD OF PILING ARMS.

Pile Arms.

The company standing in close order with ordered arms, and told off by threes, the word *Pile* is then given; the whole of the company slip the thumb of the right hand in rear of the barrel of the firelock at the same time drawing back their right feet, in order to face to their right, with the exception of numbers two in the rear rank; they advance their right feet in the hollow of the left, in order to face

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to the left. The word *Arms* is then given, the whole of the front rank, and one and three of the rear, face to the right; one and three files of the front rank turn the fire-lock on the heel of the butt with the sling towards them. One and three files of the rear rank turn the fire-lock on the heel of the butt with the sling from them, which brings the lock outwards; having done this, they lock their ramrods together, still bearing them well up so as to shew an interval. Number two file of the front rank throws his fire-lock to the rear as he then stands, and brings his left hand on number one muzzle, and completes that pile; having done that, he remains perfectly steady, faced to the right; in piling with number three, the front and rear ranks have already locked their ramrods. Number two of the rear rank throws his fire-lock off to his own rear as he then stands, and completes number three pile by bringing his left hand on the muzzle of the fire-lock; having done this, he faces to his right about, and remains steady.

UNPILE ARMS.

Unpile Arms.

At the word *Unpile*, the whole advance their right feet in the hollow of the left, and seize their fire-locks at the top brass, thumbs pointing upwards; the files numbered two of the rear rank must work well round on the hips to reach their fire-locks; at the word *Arms*, the whole snatch their fire-locks towards them, and front at the same time.

FUSIL EXERCISE.

The Fusil at the shoulder, or when carried, is to be placed in the left hand to the full extent of the arm; the barrel to the front, the cock resting upon the fingers, and the thumb over the hammer.

1st.
Secure Arms.

- 1st. Raise the left hand to a height that will admit the fingers of the right hand being placed under the cock.
- 2nd. Seize the fusil with the left hand at the swell, with the elbow close.

2nd.
Shoulder
Arms.

3rd. Quit the right hand, giving the piece a cant with the fore-fingers, and bring the fusil to the secure under the left arm.

1st. Bring the fusil up to the perpendicular line, seizing it with the right hand under the cock.

2nd. Quit the left hand, and seize the cock and hammer, at the same time allowing the fusil to sink to the full extent of the left arm; the right arm remaining across the body, with the points of the fingers on the barrel, to steady the piece.

3rd. Quit the right hand and bring it smartly down to the right side.

3rd.
Order Arms.

1st. Bring the right hand across the body, and seize the piece below the top swivel.

2nd. Bring the fusil down in front of the body within two inches of the ground; lock full to the front—left hand seizing the fusil—thumb as high as the muzzle.

3rd. Drop the butt to the ground close to between the toes. In this position the fusil is to be lightly held between the thumb and fingers of the right hand, which are to point downwards.

4th.
Fix Bayonets.

Seize the bayonet with the left hand and fix it, and resume the position of "Ordered Arms."

5th.
Shoulder
Arms.

1st. Grasp the fusil with the fingers of the right hand.

3rd. Throw the fusil into the left hand and quit the right.

6th.
Port Arms.
7th. Charge
Bayonets.

At one motion throw the fusil across the body, in the manner directed in the Manual Exercise.

As laid down in the Manual Exercise.

8th.
Shoulder
Arms.

1st. Throw the piece into the left hand, seizing it as directed at the "Shoulder," the right hand straight across the body, the points of the fingers on the barrel to steady it.

2nd. Quit the right hand smartly.

9th.
Support Arms.

1st. Slope the fusil on the left shoulder, till the guard presses against the front of the shoulder; at the same time seize the small of the butt with the right hand.

2nd. Seize the butt with the left hand.

3rd. Quit the right hand.

10
Stand at
11
Atten
12
Carry

13
Slope
14
Stand at
15
Atten

16
Carry

17
Trail

18
Shoulder

19
Order

20
Unfix bayonets

21
Stand at

22
Atten

Sergeant
the perfect
In taking
hand, the
brought
butt.

S. 3
The F

- 10th. } The same as in the position of "Slope Arms" in
Stand at Ease. } the Manual Exercise.
- 11th. }
Attention. } As laid down in the Manual Exercise.
- 12th. }
Carry Arms. } 1st. At the word *Arms*, seize the small of the
butt with the right hand.
2nd. Slip the piece to the full extent of the left
arm, seizing the cock and hammer as directed in
"Shoulder Arms," the point of the fingers of the
right hand slip along the barrel to steady it.
3rd. Quit the right hand.
- 13th. } The same as directed for the support, without
Slope Arms. } any pause between the motions.
- 14th. }
Stand at Ease. } As laid down in the Manual Exercise.
- 15th. }
Attention. } As laid down in the Manual Exercise.
- 16th. } 1st. At the word *Arms*, seize the small of the
Carry Arms. } butt with the right hand.
The 2nd and 3rd motions the same as the "Sup-
port."
- 17th. } Raise the right hand to the swell of the fusil, and
Trail Arms. } bring it down to the trail on the right side.
- 18th. } Throw the fusil into the left side, seizing the
Shoulder arms. } cock and hammer with the left hand, and quit the
right at the same time.
- 19th. }
Order Arms. } In three motions, as before directed.
- 20th. } Slip the left hand down to the right, strike the
Unfix bayonets. } bayonet off with the right hand, and return it, and
resume the position of "Attention."
- 21st. } Slip the right hand up to the left, draw the right
Stand at Ease. } foot back, and bend the left knee.
- 22nd. } Bring the right foot up to the left, and slip the
Attention. } right hand down to the full extent of the arm.

Sergeants in line will remain steady at "Shoulder Arms" during the performance of the Manual and Platoon Exercises.

In taking up an alignment, the fusil is to be raised with the left hand, the small of the butt being seized with the right, and the piece brought before the body, the barrel to the front, the left hand on the butt.

S. 30. Platoon Exercise and Different Firings.

The Recruit having a thorough knowledge of the different motions

PART I.

of the fire-lock, as shewn in the Manual Exercise, will now be taught the Platoon Exercise as follows :

Eight or ten recruits being formed in a single rank, at close files, and shouldered fire-locks, will be thus taught to fire before they are formed in two ranks.

- 1st. As a front rank standing.
- 2nd. As a rear rank standing.
- 3rd. As a front rank kneeling.
- 4th. As a rear rank kneeling.

*As front Rank
Prime and
Load.*

1st. Upon the command make a quarter face to the right, which will bring the left toe direct to the front, the right foot to be drawn back six inches in a diagonal direction to the right, at the same time bring down the fire-lock to the priming position, with the left hand at the swell, the elbow close in front of the left hip, the side-brass touching the right hip, the thumb of the right hand placed in front of the steel, with the fingers clenched and wrist a little turned out, the fire-lock nearly horizontal.

2nd. Open the pan by closing the elbow to the side, fingers straight along the lock-plate pointing towards the muzzle.

*Handle
Cartridge.*

1st. Draw the cartridge from the pouch.
2nd. Bring it to the mouth, holding it between the fore-finger and the thumb, and bite off the top of the cartridge.

Prime.

1st. Shake some powder into the pan, and place the three last fingers on the steel.

2nd. Shut the pan by closing the elbow.

3rd. Seize the small of the butt with the above three fingers.

Bout.

1st. Turn the piece nimbly round to the loading position, meeting the muzzle with the heel of the right hand the butt within two inches of the ground and the flat of it against the left ankle ; at the same time bring up the right shoulder to the front, and square the heels.

2nd. Place the butt on the ground without noise, raise the elbow square with the shoulder, shake the powder into the barrel, putting in after it the paper and the ball, after which the fingers are straight, with the second joint of the fore-finger resting on

Draw r

*Ram
Cartr*

*Ret
Ram*

*As F
Ram*

the head of the ramrod and thumb pointing downwards, elbow square with the shoulder.

In this position each recruit must feel the guard against the centre of the left shin, the thumb of the left hand pressed against the centre, and in front of the left thigh, the muzzle of the fire-lock to be brought in front of the breast-plate, and the barrel to the front.

3rd. Drop the right elbow close to the body and seize the head of the ramrod with the second joint of the fore-finger and thumb.

Draw ramrods.

1st. Force the ramrod half out, and seize it back handed exactly in the middle, with the elbow square with the shoulder.

2nd. Draw it entirely out with a straight arm above the shoulder, turning it at the same time to the front, put it one inch into the barrel; the ramrod is thus held between the two fore-fingers and thumb, with the two last fingers shut in the hand.

Ram down Cartridge.

1st. Push the ramrod down, holding it as before exactly in the middle till the second finger touches the muzzle, elbow close.

2nd. Press the ramrod lightly towards you, and slip the two fore-fingers and thumb to the point, then grasp it as before.

3rd. Push the cartridge well down to the bottom.

4th. Strike it two very quick strokes with the ramrod.

Return Ramrods.

1st. Draw the ramrod half out, catching it, back-handed, with the elbow square.

2nd. Draw it entirely out with a straight arm above the shoulder, turning it to the front; put it into the loops, and force it as quickly as possible to the bottom, the fore-finger and thumb holding the ramrod as in the position immediately previous to drawing it, and after a pause of one pace of the slow time bring the fire-lock with one motion to the same position as at the word *prime and load*, at the same time resuming the half face to the right, and carrying the right foot diagonally to the rear.

As Front Rank.

Place the thumb of the right hand on the cock, and fingers behind the guard, and cock the piece;

PART I.

- Ready.* { then take a grasp of the butt, fixing the eye
steadfastly upon some object in front.
- P'sent.* { Bring the fire-lock up to the present slowly and
independently until in line with the object the eye
had fixed upon; then pull the trigger, without a
jerk, and when fired, remain looking on the aim
until the word *load* is given.
- Too much pains cannot be taken to prevent the
recruit from raising his fire-lock with a jerk, it must
be deliberately raised until aligned with the object
that the eye is fixed upon, and so that he may lay
the right cheek on the butt without too much
stooping of the head; particular care must be taken
that the recruit in this position shuts the left eye in
taking aim, looking along the barrel with the right
eye from the breech-pin to the muzzle.
- Load.* { Bring down the fire-lock to the priming position,
and take hold of the cock with the thumb and
fingers behind the guard, and draw it back to the
half cock; the loading will be performed as before
directed.
- Shoulder Arms* { Seize the small of the butt and place the fire-lock
on the left shoulder, bringing the shoulders and
heels square to the front.
- Rear Rank.*
As Ready. { Make a half face to the right, which will bring
the left direct to the front, and step with the
right foot as far to the right as will bring the right
toe of each man close to the toes of the left foot
of his right-hand man and pointing to the right;
at the same time bring down the fire-lock to the
right side, seizing it with the left hand at the
swell; the side-brass to be four inches above the
right hip, and cock the fire-lock, fixing the eye on
some object in front, as before directed.
- P'sent.* { Bring up the fire-lock to the present slowly and
independently, and pull the trigger when the object
is covered, as before directed.
- Load.* { Bring down the fire-lock to the position described
for making ready as rear rank, and half cock, as
before directed.
- Handle*
Cartridge. { As before directed.

Prime
'Bout

Draw Ram
Ram down
Cartridge

Return
Ramrod

As front Rank
kneeling
Ready.

P'sent.

Load. Half
Cartridge
Prime.
'Bout.

Load. Down
Ramrod.
Ram down
Cartridge
Return
Ramrod.

Prime.

As before directed.

'Bout.

Turn the piece nimbly round to the loading position, meeting the muzzle with the heel of the right hand, butt within two inches of the ground and the flat of it against the inside of the left ankle, bringing the right shoulder square to the front, and keeping the right foot fast.

2nd. Place the butt on the ground without noise, inside the hollow of the left foot, and proceed as before directed.

Draw Ramrods.

As before directed.

Ram down

Cartridge.

As before directed.

Return

Ramrods.

As before directed, and after a pause of one pace as slow time, bring the fire-lock to the position of prime and load, resuming the right half face.

TO FIRE KNEELING.

As front Rank

kneeling.

Ready.

Sink down smartly on the left knee, which is to be drawn back about six inches from the left heel, the left leg to be perpendicular, the head and body erect, the fire-lock to be brought down to the priming position, the side brass in line with the haunches; then cock the piece, and grasp the small of the butt, at the same time fixing the eyes steadfastly on some object in front.

P'sent.

Raise the fire-lock slowly until in line with the object, and fire as already directed for front rank standing.

Load. Handle

Cartridge.

Prime.

'Bout.

As before directed.

With the left hand pass the fire-lock round in front of the left knee, and bring it to the left side close to the thigh, the butt to the rear, the sling upwards, the muzzle about three inches farther back than the left knee.

Load. Draw

Ramrods.

Ram down

Cartridge.

Return

Ramrods.

As before directed, and bring the fire-lock round in front of the left knee to the priming position by shifting it through the left hand.

N. B. When the word *Order Arms* is given, the men are to spring up to the standing position, bringing the fire-lock to the order.

As Rear Rank kneeling. Ready.

Sink down smartly on the right knee, which is to be drawn back about six inches diagonally to the right of the left heel; the left leg to be perpendicular, the head and body erect, the fire-lock to be brought down to the priming position, the side-brass four inches above the haunches; then cock the piece and grasp the small of the butt, at the same time fixing the eyes steadfastly on some object in front.

P'sent. Load. Handle Cartridge. Prime.

As before directed.

'Bout.

Turn the body to the right and lean to the rear, and with the left hand reverse the fire-lock, bringing the butt to the front, the sling upwards, the muzzle about the same height as the right elbow.

The recruits, being thoroughly grounded in the foregoing instructions, may now be practised in two ranks at close order in the different firings as a company in line, as a wing of a battalion, as a battalion firing a volley, file firing, &c. &c.

From twenty to thirty files may now be formed into two ranks at close order, with shouldered arms and fixed bayonets.

As a Company, prime and load.

The front rank and rear rank as described in the foregoing directions, each man doing his motions with the greatest celerity, and as correctly as shewn in slow time, and after shutting the pan, and placing the hand on the small of the butt, the right hand man will, as soon as he hears the division has done, cast about, the division taking the time from him; after casting about, each man will load and work his ramrod, as shewn in slow time, but the motions to be done without pause between them.

After returning ramrods, the whole remain perfectly steady, with the fore-finger and thumb grasping the head of the ramrod, and after a pause of one slow pace, come to the priming position.

Company. Ready.

This serves as a caution only.

As shown before, both ranks keeping the feet fast.

P'sent

Half-Arm

Shoulder

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P'sent.

{ As before directed :—" P'sent"—At the close of the General, or at the word *Cease firing*, the company, if made ready, receives the words *Half-cock Arms.*

Half-cock Arms.

{ Place the thumb of the right hand in front of the cock-screw, and the fore finger at the same time upon the trigger; the cock is then to be drawn a little back, and the trigger to be drawn so as to disengage the catch; the cock to be gently let down till the edge of the flint touches the hammer; then quit the trigger and draw back the cock to the catch of the half-cock; the small of the butt to be seized with the right hand, and the right foot brought up to the left.

Shoulder Arms

{ In the usual manner, and stand perfectly steady. But—if the company should be in the act of loading, it will go on, and come to the priming position when done, waiting for the command of the officer to shoulder.

{ Firing as a wing or as a battalion, is performed precisely as laid down for a company.

{ When a battalion fires a volley, and it is not intended to reload, the caution will be given to *fire a volley* and *half-cock* (at the priming position.)—The battalion will then *Shoulder Arms* and *Shut Pans*, by word of command from the Commanding Officer.

N. B.—A company, wing, or battalion, can prime and load, or make ready from the order, with the same ease as from the shoulder.

For instance at the words *Prime* and slip the thumb behind the barrel, and at the word *Load* according to direction.

Any movement can take place from 'Ordered Arms,' as occasions may require in the following manner :—Upon the first word of the caution, bring the fingers round the barrel, and raise the butt about one inch from the ground, with the muzzle close against the hollow of the shoulder; and at the word *Halt*, resume the position of "Ordered Arms."

The long trail, for the ease of the soldier, may be used on a line of march, or, in marching to and from the place of parade, or exercise, or with guards marching to and from their posts.

Trailed arms must never be used in field movements, as upon such occasions it will cause loose marching, and loss of distance,

*How performed at the Halt.**Trail Arms.*

{ Slip the right hand down to the swell of the stock, and lower the muzzle to a horizontal direction; at the same time the rear rank will fall nimbly back a short pace, so that the muzzle of the fire-lock shall touch the cuff of the front-rank man's jacket.

Change Arms.

{ Change from one hand to the other, as often as may be necessary.

The short trail must never be used in any instance, except the second motion of the order, and fixing and unfixing bayonets on the march, as such motion tends to cramp the muscles of the arm.

At the word *Halt*, arms are to be ordered without the word *Order Arms*, when the rear rank will close to the front.

INDEPENDENT, OR FILE FIRING.

Independent or file firing may commence from the right or left of companies, or from any particular part of the line, as may be directed, and should be done as follows:—

At the close of the preparative, the first file will begin, the caution having previously announced at what part of the line the firing is to commence; when the file comes to the present, the next file makes ready, and so on for the first fire, after which each file will fire as soon as loaded, the rear rank man keeping his eye on his front rank man, and preserving his fire until his front rank man has fired, and at the close of the General they will come to the shoulder independently, after loading.

The recruits having a thorough knowledge of the preceding portion of the drill, may now be formed in four ranks, and practise to receive cavalry with two ranks kneeling, as it is necessary to do so in square four deep.

*Prepare to
resist Cavalry.
Ready.*

{ The first rank kneel as front rank, the second rank kneeling as rear rank, both bringing at the same time the butt of the fire-lock in front of the right knee, the lock turned uppermost, the right hand lightly grasping the small of the butt, holding the fire-lock firm with the left hand at the middle of that part between the third loop and the swell, the lower part of the left arm resting upon the thigh, the muzzle of the fire-lock slanting upwards, so that the point of the bayonet will be about the height of a horse's nose,

N. B.-
the kneeling

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Squad o
Division
March

The third rank make ready as a rear rank, with this difference: they will carry the right foot only six inches to the right; the fourth rank make ready as rear rank; in this the kneeling ranks do not cock, the two standing ranks will commence file firing at the close of the Preparative, or at the word *Commence Firing*—and at the close of the General, or at the word *Cease Firing*, they will load, and come to the front with ordered arms (at the right side,) and shoulder by word of command, with the kneeling ranks, who will also shoulder from the right side; the kneeling ranks may be fired if necessary, for which the commander will give the words *Kneeling Ranks, ready, p'sent*, and which they do as directed in the foregoing instructions; then with a quick motion bring the fire-lock down to resist cavalry as before, and remain perfectly steady till the word *Load* is given.

N. B.—When the word *Load* is given, after firing in a square, the kneeling ranks will load as front ranks.

S. 31. *Firings.*

When the recruits have acquired the management of their arms, and are perfect in the motions of the Manual and Platoon Exercises, they will be instructed at closed ranks in firing.

Direct to their front and both ranks kneeling.

By files.

S. 32. *Marching to the Front and Rear.*

The squad, or division, is to be particularly well dressed; files correct; arms carried; the rear rank covering exactly, each individual to have his just attitude and position, before the squad is ordered to move. The march will be made by the right or left flank, and a properly trained man will therefore conduct it. The word *Squad* or *Division*, to be given as a caution; upon which the rear rank will on all occasions lock up; and at the word *March*, each man steps forward a *full pace*. The recruit must not turn his head or eyes to the flank by which he is marching, as a turning of the shoulders would undoubtedly follow. His elbows must be kept steady, his proper touch maintained, and his

*Squad or
Division
March.*

whole movement, both as to cadence and length of pace, must be regulated in conformity with that of the man next to him, towards his pivot flank; and without reference to the man upon his reverse flank, whose business again it is to conform to him. On the word *Halt*, the rear rank will make a short pace, so as to resume its distance of one pace from the front rank.

Halt, Front, March. { Turning to the right or left, or about, in march, is not to be at first practised; but the squad is to *Halt, Front*, by command, and then *March*.

On many occasions where a body, great or small, after a movement to the rear or in file, immediately to resume its proper front, instead of the words to halt, and face about, the words *Halt, Front*, with a slight pause between them, will be given, when it is instantly to face to its proper front in line. It is after fronting, that the dressing, if necessary, is ordered to take place.

To march straight forward is of the utmost consequence, and he who commands at the drill will take the greatest pains to make his squad perfect in this essential object:—for this purpose he will often place him- self behind the flank file by which the squad is to move in marching, and take a point or object, exactly in front of that file, and another in its rear; he will then command *March*, and remaining in his place he will direct the advance of the squad, by keeping the flank file always in a line with these objects. Great care must be taken to prevent the leaning back of the soldier, and the bringing forward or falling back of the shoulder, as they are faults which, if not instantly rectified, will create confusion in a line, where one man, by bringing forward a shoulder, may change the direction of the march, and oblige the wing of a battalion to run, in order to keep dressed.

In short, it is impossible to labour too much at making the soldier move straight forward, keeping always the same front as when he commenced his march. This is effected by moving solely from the haunches, keeping the body steady, the shoulders square, and the head to the front; and it will be attained without difficulty, by a strict attention to the rules given for marching, and a careful observance of an equal length of step, and an equal cadence or time of march. In all of which he must be guided by the correct touch to the pivot flank.

The recruit must be practised in changing the pace without halting, from *slow to quick and double*, and from *quick to slow time*; as

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well as from *quick to double*, and from *double to quick time* : but never from *double to slow time*, without a previous halt.

Right turn. { *Turning* on the march, in order to continue it, is necessary when companies, or their divisions, are moving in file, and that, without halting, it is eligible to make them move on in front ; or when moving in front, it is proper without halting to make them move on in file.

Left turn. {

Right about, Turn. { This movement is applicable to companies, whereby the front is changed on the march without halting. On the word *Turn*, each individual soldier, without changing step, or cadence, comes to the right or left about on his own ground, and in his own person performing the movement in the time prescribed for three distinct paces, then marking time till he receives the word *Forward*, when he resumes the full pace to the front.

Left about, Turn. {

Forward.

Strong taps of the drum, regulated by the plummet, will be given immediately before the word *March*, to imprint the required measure on the mind of the recruit ; but the words *left, right*, are never to be used.

S. 33. *Open and Close Order on the March.*

Rear Rank take Open Order. { The squad when moving to the front in slow time, receives the word *Rear Rank, take Open Order* ; on which the front rank continues its march, without altering the pace, and the rear rank marks the time, one pace, and steps off at the second step.

Rear Rank take Close Order. { On the word *Rear Rank, take Close Order*, the rear rank steps nimbly up to close order, and instantly resumes the pace at which the front rank has continued to march.

S. 34. *March in File to a Flank.*

The accuracy of the march in file is so essential in all counter marches, file movements, and all deployments from close column, that the recruit cannot be too much exercised in it.

To the—face, March. { After *facing*, and at the word *March*, the whole squad steps off at the same instant, each replacing, or rather overstepping the foot of the man before him ; that is, the right foot of the second man comes within the left foot of the first, and thus of every one, more or less overlapping that of his preceding man. The front rank will march straight along the

given line; each soldier of that rank must look along the necks of those before him, and never to right, or left, otherwise a waving of the march will take place, and, of course, the loss and extension of the line and distance, whenever the body returns to its proper front. The men of the rear rank must regulate themselves by their leaders of the front rank, and always dress in their file. Although file marching is in general made in quick time, yet it must also be practised and made in slow time. The same position of feet, as above, takes place in all marching in front, where the rear rank is closed and locked up.

The Instructor must take care that every man takes at once his full length of pace at the word *March*.

S. 35. *Wheeling in File.*

Squad.

Right Wheel.

Left Wheel.

The squad when marching in file, must be accustomed to wheel its head to either flank; each file following successively, without losing or increasing distance. On this occasion, each file makes its separate wheel on a pivot moveable in a very small degree, but without altering its time on march. The front-rank men, whether they are pivot men or not must keep up to their distance, and the wheeling men must take a very extended step, and loose no time in moving on.

The head of a company marching in file, must change direction in the same manner on the moveable pivot, by gradually gaining the new from the old direction, and thereby avoiding the sudden stop that otherwise would take place.

S. 36. *Wheeling forward from the Halt.*

Right Wheel.
Quick March.

Halt.

The directions already given for the wheeling of a single rank (vide Sect. 19) are to be strictly attended in this wheel of the squad. On the word *Right* (or *Left*) *Wheel*, the rear rank, if at one pace distance, locks up. At the word *Quick March*, the whole step together in the quick time, and the rear rank, during the wheel, inclines so as to cover the proper front-rank men. At the word *Halt*, the whole remain perfectly steady.

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S. 37. *Wheeling backward.*

The squad must be practised in wheeling backward in quick time. In this wheel, the ranks may preserve the distance of one pace from each other. Great attention should be paid to prevent the recruits from fixing their eyes on the ground. (Vide Sect. 20.)

S. 38. *Wheeling on a halted and moveable Pivot.*

The directions for wheeling on a *halted*, and on a *moveable* pivot, have already been given in Sects. 19 and 21. The squad should now be practised in both, until the recruits are thoroughly confirmed in these movements.

S. 39. *Stepping out,—Stepping short,—Marking Time,—Changing Feet,—The Side Step,—Stepping back,—The Oblique Step,—The Diagonal March.*

The squad must likewise be practised in *stepping out, stepping short, marking time, changing feet, the side step, stepping back, the oblique step*, and the *diagonal march*, the instructions for which have been fully detailed in the forgoing sections.

N. B. In closing by the side step, the touch will be kept to the closing flank.

It cannot be too strongly inculcated, that every just movement and manœuvre depends upon the correct *equality of march*, established and practised by all the troops of the same army. When this is not attended to, disunion and confusion must follow, on the junction of several battalions, although, when taken separately, each may be well trained. It is in the original instruction of the recruit, and squad, that this great point is to be attained. The *time* and *length* of step are prescribed; the *time* is infallibly ascertained by the frequent corrections of the *plummet*, which, when so applied, will soon give to each man the habitual measure so much desired; and the *length* of step, is acquired by repeated practice and the constant use of the pace stick. When a squad marches by files, by threes or by fours, a man should be placed upon the flank of the leading files, to whose step the pace stick can be conveniently applied to correct the length of step of the whole.

In closing the elementary part of the soldier's instruction, it cannot be too strongly stated, that where the task of the drill sergeant ends, there the task of the company's officers and non-commissioned officers commences. The recruit has indeed been taught the rudiments of his profession in the drill squad, but it is only in the ranks of his company that the lessons he has received can be so applied and rigidly enforced, as to ensure that the acquired positions and

PART I.

movements of the soldier shall become the natural habit of the man. Under the eye of thoroughly instructed seniors, who will give their scrupulous attention to the object here insisted on, the transition, from the recruit to the perfect soldier, will not be very tedious, when it will be awkward for a man so trained to do wrong; and his drill may then be said to be over for life. In order, however, to arrive at this great end of all military training, no slovenly habits must be suffered to creep in at private parades. The sergeant in inspecting his section, and the corporal in marching his relief, must exact as much attention and precision from those under him, as the drill sergeant invariably requires from his squad. By practice, what was at first constrained, will become natural and easy. The soldier thus trained, whether under the eye of the reviewing general or the fire of an enemy, will perform his part with facility and correctness.

END OF PART I.

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PART II.

OF THE COMPANY.

S. 1. Formation of the Company.

THE Recruit being thoroughly grounded in all the preceding parts of the drill, is now to be instructed in the movements of the company, as a more immediate preparation for his joining the battalion; for this purpose from 10 to 20 files are to be assembled, formed, and told off in the following manner, as a company in the battalion.

The company FALLS IN at close order, with shouldered arms; the files lightly touching, but without crowding; each man will then occupy a space of about 21 inches. The commander of the company takes post on the right of the front rank covered by a sergeant in the rear rank. The other sergeants will form a third, or supernumerary rank, three paces from the rear rank.

When a company is thus singly formed with its officers, the captain is on the right, and the other officers in the rear, as also the drummer or pioneer in a third rank, at three paces distance. In this formation companies are to assemble on their private parades, being sized from flanks to centre.

The company will be told off in sub-divisions and four sections. If four officers are present, the captain, when the company is in column of sections, takes the leading section, the next in seniority the third section, the third in rank the fourth section, and the junior officer the second. The covering sergeant will cover the second file from the pivot of the leading section. When there are but three officers, the covering sergeant will take the second section from the head of the column. The company will also be told off by threes from the right, numbered 1, 2, 3.

Should there be a blank file in telling off the company in line, it will invariably be the fourth file from the left.

When thus formed, the company will be practised in

Opening and Closing of	}	Ranks.	(Sect. 27 and 28, Part I.)
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Dressing { to the front,
 { to the rear,
 { in an oblique direction, } by the right and left ;

and be exercised in the several motions of the fire-lock.

Close Order is the chief and primary order in which the battalion and its parts at all times assemble and form. *Open Order* is only regarded as an exception from it, and occasionally used in situations of parade and show. In close order, the rear rank is closed up to within one pace, the length of which is to be taken from the heels of one rank to the heels of the other rank. In open order they are two paces distant from each other ; when for inspection, three paces.

In order to distinguish the words of command given by the instructor of the drill (who represents the commander of the battalion) from those given by the commander of the company, or its divisions, the commands of the former are in CAPITAL letters, those of the latter in *Italic*.

S. 2. Marching to the Front.

BY THE RIGHT
(OR LEFT,)
MARCH,
or,
QUICK MARCH,

1. In the drill of the company, the person instructing must always consider it as a company in battalion, and regulate all its movements upon that principle ; he will therefore, before he puts it in motion to front or rear, indicate which flank is to direct by giving the word BY THE RIGHT, LEFT, OR CENTRE, MARCH, on which eyes will be directed full to the front, and the touch preserved to the named flank, or to the centre, as required. Should the right be the directing flank, the commander of the company himself will fix on objects to march upon in a line truly perpendicular to the front of the company ; and when the left flank is ordered to direct, he and his covering sergeant will shift by the rear to the left of the front rank, and take such objects to march upon. The conductor of the company, before the word MARCH is given, will remark some distinct object on the ground, in his own front, and perpendicular to the directing flank ; he will then observe some nearer and intermediate point in the same line, such as a stone, tuft of grass, &c. : he will move upon them with accuracy, and as he approaches the nearest of those points, he must, from time to time, choose fresh ones in the original direction, which he will by this means preserve,

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HALT

right and left;

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which the battalion in *Open Order* is only used in situations is closed up to from the heels in order they are on, three paces. by the instructor (battalion) from its divisions, the of the latter in

any, the person as a company ments upon that he puts it in mo. flank is to di- , LEFT, OR CEN- directed full to the named l. Should the amander of the to march upon e front of the is ordered to t will shift by and take such tor of the com- n, will remark his own front, flank; he will mediate point of grass, &c.: cy, and as he nts, he must, in the original ans preserve,

never having fewer than two such points to move upon.

2. As the MARCH of every body, except in the case of inclining, is made on lines perpendicular to its front, each individual composing that body must remain perfectly square to the given line; otherwise he will naturally and insensibly move in a direction perpendicular to his own person, and thereby open out, or close in, according to the manner in which he is turned from the true point of his march. If the distortion of a single man operates in this manner, and all turnings of the head do so distort him, it may be easily imagined what that of several will occasion, each of whom is marching on a different front, and whose lines of direction are crossing each other.

The company, during its march in line, will occasionally be ordered to

<i>Step out</i>	vide Sect. 8	} PART I.
<i>Mark Time</i>	10	
<i>Step Short</i>	9	
<i>Open and close ranks</i>	33	
<i>Oblique</i>	22	
<i>Diagonal March</i>	23	

S. 3. The Side Step.

The *side* or *closing step* must also be frequently practised; it is very necessary and useful on many occasions, when halted, and when a very small distance is to be moved to either flank.

When the whole company is to close to a flank, if supposed to be a division of a column, its commander remains in his place upon the flank and closes with his company; but if the company is to be considered as the division of a line, and no stated number of paces is mentioned, its commander will in that case step nimbly forward on the caution TO THE RIGHT (OR LEFT,) CLOSE, and place himself three paces in front of that flank which is supposed the inner one, or that which is nearest to the centre of the line, in order that he may be prepared to halt his company at the proper time, as well as to take a general superintendence of its movement.

At the word QUICK MARCH, the men step off together.

On the word HALT being given, the officer instantly resumes his place in the line by the rear.

TO THE RIGHT
OR LEFT.
CLOSE.

QUICK MARCH.

HALT.

S. 4. The Back Step.

STEP BACK
—MARCH.

The company must be accustomed from the halt, at the word STEP BACK—MARCH, to step back any ordered number of paces.

S. 5. To Form Four Deep.

FORM FOUR
DEEP.

MARCH.

REAR, FORM
FOUR DEEP.
MARCH.

RIGHT, FORM
FOUR DEEP.
MARCH.

LEFT, FORM
FOUR DEEP.
MARCH.

1. The company will be told off, from the right by alternate files right and left; and when it is intended to form four deep, preserving the same front, the word FORM FOUR DEEP will be given, upon which the rear rank will step back one pace, and on the word MARCH, the left files will double behind the right files, by taking one pace to the rear with the left feet, and one pace to the right with the right feet, which forms four deep, leaving the intervals which the left files had quitted.

2. When four deep is to be formed to the rear. On the same caution the rear rank will step back as before, and on the word MARCH, the whole go to the right about, and the left files will then double as before, in the proper rear of the right files.

3. When the ground is to be taken to the right in the formation of four deep. On the caution the rear rank steps back as before, and on the word MARCH, the whole face to the right, and the left files at the same instant, form on the right of the right files, taking one pace to the right with the right feet, and one pace to the front with the left feet.

4. When ground is to be taken to the left. The rear rank steps back as before, and on the word MARCH, the whole face to the left, and the left files, at the same instant, form on the left of the right files, by taking one pace to the left with the left feet, and one pace to the rear with the right feet.

In all these formations two deep is re-formed from each of them by the word *Front*, upon which the files move up to their respective intervals into line, the rear rank immediately closing on the front rank: the word *Halt* will precede the word *Front* if the company has been in movement.

In moving to a flank, file marching may be adopted, if necessary, by the files leading out in their proper order upon the word FORM TWO DEEP; and, at the word RE-FORM FOUR DEEP resuming their former places.

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S. 6. *File Marching.*

In marching by files, the commander of the company will lead on the inward flank of the front rank, his covering sergeant leading the front rank; therefore when the movement is by the left, on the word **TO THE LEFT FACE**, he will instantly shift to the left flank of the company by the front and his covering sergeant by the rear: at the word **QUICK MARCH**, the whole step off together (vide Sect. 18, Part 1.); and on the word *Halt, front*, the leader and his sergeant will return to their posts on the right by the rear.

LEFT FACE.

QUICK MARCH.

Halt, front.

The company will also be taught to—*advance in double files from the centre*, receiving from the instructor of the drill the command by **SUB-DIVISIONS INWARDS FACE**; upon which the two centre files disengage by the side step, bringing the shoulders forward at the words **QUICK MARCH**, and lead straight to the front, the front and rear-rank men in line.

The officer and his covering sergeant will lead, in their relative situations as above prescribed, the left or right centre file of the pivot sub-division.

On the command **FRONT FORM COMPANY**, the leading files mark time and close in, their rear-rank men falling to the rear; the remainder turn their bodies a whole face outwards, and wheel inwards, looking to the outward flank, and feeling to the centre.

As soon as the quarter circle is completed, the word *Forward* is given if the march is to be continued.

If the company from double files is to be formed to a flank (suppose the right,) the instructor gives the caution **TO THE RIGHT, FORM COMPANY**, when the commander of the company will give the command, *Right Sub-division, Halt, front*. The remainder of the company march on in file, and form on the left of the halted sub-division in succession, halting as they come into line.

When the advance in double files from the centre is made on the march, the command is *Sub-divisions inwards turn, Right and Left wheel*, and the movement proceeds as above directed.

S. 7. *Wheeling from a Halt.*

In wheeling either forward or backward from a halt, the commander of the company, on the word **RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL**, moves out and places himself one pace in front of the centre of his company; during the wheel, he turns towards his men, and

RIGHT WHEEL,
QUICK MARCH.

PART I.

Halt, Dress.

inclines towards that flank which has been named as the directing, or pivot one, giving the word *Halt, Dress*, when this wheeling man has just completed the required degree of wheel: he then squares his company, but without moving what was the standing flank, and takes his post on the directing flank.

S. 8. Wheeling forward by Sub-divisions from Line.

BY SUB-DIVISIONS, RIGHT WHEEL.

1. On the caution BY SUB-DIVISIONS, RIGHT WHEEL, the commander of the company places himself one pace in front of the centre of the right sub-division, at the same time the men on the right of the front rank of each sub-division face to the right.

QUICK MARCH.

At the word QUICK MARCH, each sub-division steps off in quick time, observing the directions given in Sect. 19 and 36, Part I. The commander of the company turning towards the men of the leading sub-division, and inclining to its left (the proper pivot flank), gives the word *Halt, Dress*, for both sub-divisions, as his wheeling man is taking the last step that finishes the wheel square; and instantly posts himself on the left, the pivot flank. The covering sergeant shifting by the rear to the proper pivot flank, assumes his place in column, one pace in rear of the second file from the pivot, the senior subaltern taking post on the pivot flank of the second sub-division; the commander of the company always leading the first.

Halt, Dress,

2. The company marching to the front may be wheeled into open column of sub-divisions on the moveable pivot, to either flank *without* halting; the instructor giving the word FORWARD, when the sub-divisions have wheeled square into column.

The *proper* pivot flank in column is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in the natural order, and to their proper front; the other is the *reverse* flank.

In column, divisions cover and dress to the proper pivot flank: to the left when the right is in front; and to the right when the left is in front.

S. 9. Wheeling backwards by Sub-divisions from Line.

The company will also break into open column of sub-divisions by wheeling backwards.—When

CAUTION.

the right is intended to be in front; at the caution BY SUB-DIVISIONS ON THE LEFT, BACKWARD WHEEL, the commander of the company moves out briskly and places himself one pace in front of the centre of the right sub-division. The man on the left of the front rank of each sub-division at the same time faces to the right.

QUICK MARCH.

On the word QUICK MARCH, each sub-division wheels backward, as directed in Sections 20 and 37, Part 1. During the wheel, the commander of the company turns towards his men, inclining at the same time to the left, or pivot flank, and on completing the wheel gives the word *Halt, Dress*, to both divisions: he and his covering sergeant then place themselves in their proper stations, as directed in the last Section.

Halt, Dress.

S. 10. *Marching on an Alignement, in Open Column of Sub-Divisions.*

MARCH.

The company having wheeled backwards by sub-divisions from line, (as directed in the foregoing Section,) and a distant marked object in the prolongation of the two pivot flanks being taken; the commander of the company, who is now on the pivot flank of the leading sub-division, immediately fixes on his intermediate points to march on. (Vide S 2, Part II.) On the word MARCH, given by the instructor of the drill, both divisions step off at the same instant; the leader of the first division marching with the utmost steadiness and equality of pace on the points he has taken; and the commander of the second division preserving the leader of the first in the exact line with the distant object; at the same time he keeps the distance necessary for forming from the preceding division, which distance is to be taken from the front rank.—These objects must occupy the whole attention of the leaders of the two divisions.

S. 11. *Wheeling into Line from Open Column of Sub-divisions.*

1. The company being in open column of sub-divisions, marching on the alignement, receives the

HALT.

LEFT WHEEL
INTO LINE.

QUICK MARCH.

Halt, Dress.

Eyes front.

word HALT from the instructor of the drill; both divisions instantly halt, and the instructor sees that the leaders of the divisions are correct on the line in which they have moved; he then gives the word (supposing the right of the company to be in front) by sub-divisions LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE; on which the commander of the company goes to the centre of his sub-division, the two pivot men face to their left exactly square with the alignment, the rear rank men covering off, and a sergeant runs out and places himself in a line with them, so as to mark the precise point at which the right flank of the leading sub-division is to halt, when it shall have completed its wheel. At the word QUICK MARCH, the whole wheel up in quick time; during the wheel, the commander of the company, turning towards his men, inclines to the wheeling flank, and gives the word *Halt, Dress*, at the moment the wheel of this division is completed; the commander of the company, if necessary, corrects the internal dressing of the company, on the sergeant and pivot men: this dressing must be quickly made, and, when done, the commander of the company gives the word *Eyes front*, and takes post in line as directed in Sect. 1, Part II.

2. The company may be wheeled into line on the march on the moveable pivot, receiving from the instructor the command SHOUT, DRESS FORWARD, then FORWARD, or HALT, DRESS, when the wheel is complete.

In all wheels of the divisions of a column that are to be made on a halted pivot in order to form line, the flank men of the front rank on the hand wheeled to is such pivot.

All wheelings by sub-divisions, or sections, from line into column, or from column into line, are performed on the word given by the commander of a battalion, when the whole of a battalion is at the same instant so to wheel; or on the word given by the commander of the company, when companies singly, or successively, so wheel; they are not to be repeated by the leaders of its divisions.

When the company is in open column of sub-divisions, it must be occasionally practised to wheel into line upon the reverse flank of the column; and in shewing a front line also to that reverse flank by wheeling backwards on the regular pivots. On the caution to wheel into line by companies; pivot men face and raise their right

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arms from the elbow horizontally. On the word *Eyes front*, the hand resumes its usual position.

S. 12. In open Column of Sub-divisions entering into a new Direction on a moveable Pivot.

*Right
Shoulders
Forward.*

Forward.

The commander of the leading sub-division, when it arrives at the new direction, will give the word *Right* (or *Left*) *Shoulders Forward* (Vide Sect. 21, Part I.), and when his sub-division has wheeled square to that direction, he will give the word *Forward*. The leader of the second sub-division when he arrives at the ground where the first began to change its direction, will give the same words, following the exact track, and always preserving his distance from the division in his front.

1. If the proper pivot flank is to be the wheeling one, each commander of a division gives his word *Shoulders forward* as he successively arrives at such a distance from the point on which he has moved, as that, at the completions of the wheel his division may receive the word *Forward* when perpendicular to the new line, but with the given point, of course, behind the proper pivot; and that he also in his own person be on the new direction, prepared to give his word *Forward*, and to proceed.

2. The sub-divisions must take care that they continue their march correctly upon the point where the leading one wheeled, and that they do not shift to either flank, which without much attention, they are apt to do.

S. 13. Counter-marching.

The company, when it is to counter-march, must always be considered as a division of a battalion in column; the instructor of the drill will therefore, previous to his giving the caution to counter-march, signify whether the right or left is supposed to be in front, that the commander of the company, and his covering sergeant, may be placed on the pivot flank before such caution is given, as it is an invariable rule in the counter-march of the divisions of a column by files, that the facings be made from the flank, then the pivot one, to the one which is to become such.

Counter-march by Files.

**RIGHT (OR
LEFT) FACE.**

1st. On the word **RIGHT, OR LEFT, FACE**, the company faces, the commander of it immediately takes one pace outwards, and faces inwards ready to halt his company; and his covering sergeant faces to the

QUICK MARCH.

*Halt, Front,
Dress.*

RIGHT AND
LEFT FACE.

RIGHT COUNTER
MARCH,
QUICK MARCH.
*Halt, Front,
Dress.*

right about, and covers. At the word **QUICK MARCH**, the whole, except the commander and his covering sergeant, step off together, and the leading file wheeling short round the front rank, proceeds, followed by the company in file, till it has reached the covering sergeant, who has remained immovable; when the commander instantly gives the words *Halt, Front, Dress*, squares, and closes his company on his sergeant, and then replaces him.

Counter-march by Ranks.

2nd. On the word **FACE**, whether the right or left is in front, the front rank faces to the right, the rear rank to the left; commanders place themselves on the outward flank of their sergeants facing inwards, and the covering sergeants go to the right-about.

The whole step off together, the two ranks severally wheeling in single file, till the pivot man of the front rank comes close to the covering sergeant; they then receive the word *Halt, Front, Dress*, from the officer who replaces the sergeant.

All counter marches by files necessarily tend to an extension of the files; unity of step is therefore absolutely indispensable, and the greatest care must be taken that the wheel of each file be made close, quick, and at an increased length of step of the wheeling man, so as not to retard or lengthen out the march of the whole.

Companies, or their divisions, when brought up in file to a new line, are not to stand in that position till the men cover each other minutely; but the instant the leading man is at his point, they will receive the word *Halt, Front*, and in that situation close in and dress correctly.

S. 14. Wheeling on the Centre of the Company.

The company must be accustomed to wheel upon its centre half backward, half forward, and to be pliable into every shape which circumstances can require of it; but always in order, and by a decided command.

COMPANY,
ON THE CENTRE

The words of Command are,

RIGHT,	} WHEEL.
LEFT,	
RIGHT ABOUT,	
LEFT ABOUT,	

When the wheel is to the right, or right about, the right half company wheels backward, and the

Halt, D

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Part I.)
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S. 16.

FORM CO
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Halt, Dress.

left forward. In this case the right-hand man of the left sub-division is the pivot man; he faces to his right, or right about, and the covering sergeant springs out and aligns himself with him, but to the flank which is to become the pivot. The reverse will take place, when the wheel is to be made to the left, or to the left about. The left-hand man of the right sub-division is then the pivot man, who will face to his left, or left about; the covering sergeant aligns himself with him, as in the wheel to the right. On the word **MARCH**, the whole move off together in quick time, regulating by the two flank men, who, during the wheel, preserve themselves in a line with the centre of the company; as soon as the required degree of wheel is performed, the commander of the company gives the word *Halt, Dress*, and instantly squares it from that flank on which he himself is to take post.

S. 15. *Diagonal March.*

The instructor of the drill will have the diagonal march frequently practised, in company, and in sub-divisions; (vide S. 22 and 23, Part I.) He will see that the rear rank locks well up, and covers exactly; that the exact distances are preserved between the files; and that the pivots, or outward files, march in the direct line to which they have faced, the others conforming to them.

S. 16. *Increasing and Diminishing the Front of an Open Column halted.*

Increasing.

FORM COM-
PANY.

*Left sub-divi-
sion, Left Half
Face;
Quick March.*

*Halt, Front,
Dress up.*

The company standing in open column of sub-divisions (suppose the right in front) receives from the instructor of the drill a caution to **FORM COMPANY**; upon which the covering sergeants will run out to mark the pivot flank. The commander of the company, turning round, instantly orders, *Left Sub-division, Left Half Face: Quick March*; and the leading (or pivot) file will march straight on the covering sergeant. When the left sub-division has obliqued so as to gain the line of the right sub-division, the commander gives the word *Halt, Front, Dress up*; and takes post on the left, the pivot flank of the company.

or right about,
ward, and the

PART I.

Diminishing.

FORM SUB-DIVISIONS.

*Left Sub-division, Right about, Three-quarters face, Quick March.**Halt, Front, Dress.*

On the cautionary command from the instructor of the drill to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the senior sub. altern instantly falls back to mark the point where the left flank of the sub-division is to rest. The commander of the company, advancing one step, orders, *Left Sub-division, Right about three-quarters Face, Quick March*; and the leading file of the left sub-division marches in the diagonal direction, until the pivot file reaches the officer who has taken up its distance and covers; and who, when it shall reach him, gives the words *Halt, Front, Dress*.

The commander remains on the left flank of the right sub-division, and the next officer on that of the left.

In increasing and diminishing the front of an open column halted, upon the usual caution, the rear-rank man of the pivot file of the reverse sub-division falls back and covers the third file of his sub-division, in order to leave room for the flank of the other sub-division, resuming his place as soon as the flanks are clear.

It is to be observed as a general rule in diminishing the front of a column by the doubling of sub-divisions or sections, whether the column be halted or in motion, that the sub-division or section on the *reverse* flank is the one behind which the other sub-divisions or sections double. Thus, when the right is in front, the doubling will be in the rear of the right sub-division; and *vice versa* when the left is in front. And in increasing the front of a column, the rear sub-divisions or sections, oblique to the hand of the pivot flank is on; so that, when the right is in front, the obliquing will be to the left, and the reverse when the left is in front.

S. 17. Increasing and Diminishing the Front of an Open Column on the March.

Increasing.

FORM COMPANY

Left Sub-division, left half turn, Double.

The company marching at quick time in open column of sub-division (suppose right in front), receives from the instructor of the drill the cautionary command, FORM COMPANY: the commander of the company, instantly turning round, gives the words, *Left Sub-division left half turn, Double*, and it instantly moves off at the *Double March*; and as soon as its inward flank is open, it receives the word

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S. 18.

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Two file
right tur

**Front Turn.
Quick.**

Front turn, and when in line with the reverse sub-division, *Quick*, the commander taking post on the pivot flank, towards which he has been moving.

*Diminishing.***FORM SUB-DIVISIONS.**

When the instructor of the drill gives the caution to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the commander of the company, advancing one step, immediately orders, *Left Sub-division mark time: right half turn*; and when it has doubled properly behind the right one, the senior subaltern gives the word *Front turn*, placing himself on its pivot flank.

Left Sub-division, mark time; Right half turn.

The same directions that apply to increasing or diminishing by sub-divisions, apply equally by sections.

If the column is moving in slow time, when its front is to be increased, the division moving up will do so in quick time; but when the column is marching in quick time, the rear sub-division will in that case move up in double time as directed.

S. 18. The Company in Open Column of Sub-divisions to pass a short defile, by breaking off Files.

**BREAK OFF
3 FILES.**

*Three Files,
Right turn,
Left wheel.*

The company is supposed in open column of sub-divisions, with the right in front; when the leading division is arrived within a few paces of the defile, it receives from the instructor of the drill an order to break off a certain number of files (suppose three). The commander of the leading division instantly gives the words, *Three files on the left, right turn, left wheel*; the named files immediately turn to the right, and wheeling to the left, follow in file in rear of the left flank of the sub-division.—When the second sub-division comes to the spot where the first division contracted its front, it will receive the same words of command from its own leader, and will proceed in like manner.

*Two files,
right turn.*

Should it be required to diminish the front of the column one or two files more, the commander of the leading division will, as before, order the desired number of files to *turn*, on which those already in the rear will incline to the right, so as to cover the files now ordered to break off, and which turn to the right and wheel to the left in the manner already prescribed.

In this movement, the files in the rear of the sub-divisions must lock well up, so as not to impede the march of the succeeding division. The covering sergeant will cover his officer until all the files are again brought up.

Three files to the front.

As the defile widens (or the instructor of the drill shall direct), the commander of the leading sub-division will order files to move up to the front by giving the word *One, two, or three files to the front*; on which the named files turn to their front (the left), and lengthening their pace, march up, file by file, to the front of their sub-division, and immediately resume the march. Those files which are to continue in the rear will oblique to the left, lengthening also their step, till they cover, and are closed up to the right flank of their sub-division.

It is to be observed that in passing a defile, the rule is that the files break off from the pivot flank; but interruptions may in some cases present themselves, requiring that the files be broken off from the reverse flank. The same instructions apply in both cases.

S. 19. The Company Halted or on the March, moves to a Flank, in column of sections, or of sections of Threes.

SECTIONS, OR
THREES,
RIGHT OR LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD—
if halted,
QUICK MARCH,
FORWARD.
SECTIONS OR
THREES, ON
THE RIGHT OR
LEFT BACK-
WARDS WHEEL
QUICK MARCH,
Halt, Dress.
RIGHT OR LEFT
SHOULDERS
FORWARD—
FORWARD,
or Halt, dress.

The company from line will be practised in forming sections and sections of threes, both when halted and in motion, by the command, SECTIONS, OR THREES RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD—QUICK MARCH, FORWARD; and the only exception to this rule will be, when pivots are required to be accurately dressed, or when the alignment of the company is to be preserved; in this case the command will be, SECTIONS, OR THREES, ON THE RIGHT OR LEFT, BACKWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH, *Halt, Dress.*

In re-forming company, the command will be, RIGHT OR LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD,—FORWARD, if the march is to be continued, otherwise, *Halt, Dress.*

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RIGHT OR LEFT
WHEEL INTO
LINE,
QUICK MARCH.
Halt, Dress.

When pivots are required to be accurately dressed, or when the alignment is to be preserved, the command will be, RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE, QUICK MARCH, *Halt, Dress.*

The word *Forward* or *Halt*, must be given just as the outward men of threes are completing their third pace.

Should the telling off by threes leave either one or two files over, they will be placed on the right of the left section of threes, which is always to be complete. If there is one file over—on the word, THREES, SHOULDERS FORWARD, the front rank man wheels up, and places himself in rear of the pivot flank of the section in front of him; his rear rank man placing himself in the rear of its reverse flank, both men locking up; but if the odd file is a blank one, the reverse flank of the preceding section must necessarily remain uncovered. If there are two files over—they wheel as ordered, and form a section of themselves, covering the outward flanks of the section preceding them; but if one of these two files is a blank file, the three men will form a single rank, the two front rank men covering the flanks of the preceding section, and the rear rank man stepping up between them.

In forming threes from line to the right or to the left by the shoulders forward, the leading section must frequently be practised to wheel upon the centre man of the three, as they will often be required to do so, in disengaging to the rear, when formed as a division of a line.

The company at any time may form threes to a flank, after the telling off has been deranged, if the men are practised to do so rapidly in succession. The first three is formed at once; the fourth man in the front rank then sees that he is the pivot for the next three, and turns or faces into the new direction; the seventh file then follow, and so on to the reverse flank of the company; when on the march, the company may mark time until the threes are formed, when they receive the word FORWARD.

In changing the direction of a column of threes, the command will be the same as in file marching, *right wheel—left wheel.*

Should it be required to form company upon the leading three, the commander will order FRONT FORM COMPANY, upon which the leading three will mark time, the remainder will make a half turn to the proper hand, and moving up to their proper places in line, will mark time until the word forward or halt is given.

If from sections of threes it be required to form sub-divisions or sections, the commander will order RIGHT (OR LEFT) TURN, RIGHT (OR

LEFT) WHEEL, and when in file, **FRONT FORM SUB-DIVISIONS** (or **SECTIONS**), upon which the leading file of sub-divisions (or sections) will mark time; the remainder turn their bodies a whole face to the proper hand, and wheel in sub-divisions or sections to the right or left as may be required. During these formations the company leader will move by the front to his proper station.

The company marching to a flank in threes will be practised to turn to the right and left, and to the right about, wheeling forward. afterwards, rear rank in front; the company may also be inverted by wheeling the threes forward on their reverse flank, as the inversion can at any moment be corrected.

S. 20. Forming Company, Sub-divisions, Sections, or sections of threes, from File Marching.

**FRONT FORM
COMPANY,
SUB-DIVISIONS
OR SECTIONS,**

{ At this word of command, the leading file marks time, the remainder turn their bodies a whole face to the left, and wheel to the right, looking to the outward flank and feeling inwards (that is to say) if right in front, turn to the left, and if left in front, turn to the right—the officer, if not already in his place, passing along the front to it during the wheel.

As soon as the quarter circle is complete, the word **FORWARD** is given, if the march is to be continued.

The company marching in file, (suppose from the right) has only to halt and front to be formed to the left flank.

**ON THE LEADING
FILE TO THE
RIGHT, FORM
COMPANY.**

{ At this word of command the front rank man of the leading file will turn to the right, take one pace to the front, and halt, the rear rank moving round and covering; the remainder of the company form on the left of the right file, by files in succession.

**ON THE LEADING
FILE TO THE
RIGHT ABOUT,
FORM COMPANY.**

{ At this word the leading file wheels to the right about, taking one pace to the front after wheeling; the remainder of the company march on in file, wheeling round the halted file, and forming on its left by files in succession, each file, as it comes into the line, taking up its dressing from the standing flank.

S. 21. To form to either Flank, from Open Column of Sub-divisions.

{ The company marching in open column of sub-

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S. 22.
Ground

SECTIONS F

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column of sub-

HALT.
WHEEL INTO
LINE,
QUICK MARCH.

TO THE RIGHT,
FORM COMPANY.

*Left Shoulders
forward—
forward, Halt,
Dress.*

*Left or Right
oblique,
forward.*

*Left Shoulders
forward.
Halt, dress.*

divisions, to form to its left, receives the words, HALT, LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE, QUICK MARCH, &c., and proceeds as has already been shewn in S. 41, Part II.

To form the company to its right flank, the instructor of the drill gives the cautionary word of command, TO THE RIGHT FORM COMPANY; on which the commanders of the several divisions shift to the right flank, and the commander of the leading sub-division instantly gives the word to his division, *Left shoulders forward*. When it has wheeled square, he orders, *Forward*; and having gained three paces he gives the word *Halt, dress*, and dresses it on the intended line of formation. The second sub-division must gradually incline to the left by the oblique step, by word of command from its commander, in order to be able to march clear of the first, and when it is arrived at the left flank of the first, its commander, falling to the rear, gives the word, *Left shoulders forward—forward*; then *Ha't, dress up*; on which the division moves up into the line with the one formed; and the commander of the company dresses it from the outward flank of the first formed sub-division, and resumes his proper place.

S. 22. The Company moving to the Front to gain Ground to a flank, by a March in Echelon, by sections.

SECTIONS RIGHT.

FORWARD.

FORM COMPANY.

FORWARD.

The company, marching to the front, receives the word SECTIONS RIGHT; the right-hand men of the front rank of each section turning in a small degree to their right, mark the time two paces, during which the sections are wheeling on their pivot men; at the third pace, and at the word FORWARD, the whole move on direct to the front that each section has now acquired: and the company continues its march in echelon.

On the word FORM COMPANY, the pivot men mark the time as before, turning back in a small degree to the left, the original front, and the sections instantly wheel backward into line; on the word FORWARD, the whole advance in line.

S. 23. *To form the Rallying Square.*

FORM THE
RALLYING
SQUARE.

1. The instructor of the drill having caused the company to disperse to a certain distance, will give the word **FORM THE RALLYING SQUARE**, at the same time placing himself facing the supposed enemy; the men hasten to the person so posted, fixing bayonets and ordering their arms as they reach him. The two first who join him form on his right and left facing outwards. The three next place themselves in front of those posted, and three others to the rear facing to the rear, thus forming a square of three. The instructor will cause the next four men to take post at the several angles; and others as they come up will complete the different faces between these angles, which will form a square of five.

2. A square thus composed of twenty-four men (besides the person who is to rally) and formed two deep may be augmented to a square of *seven*, three deep, by four more men taking posts at the angles, and others coming up to complete the faces as before; the square will then consist of forty-eight men, and may be augmented in the same manner to a square of *nine*, four deep, by the angles being occupied by four more men, and the faces filled up as before; and the square will then be composed of eighty men.

THE SQUARE
WILL MOVE TO
THE FRONT,
REAR, RIGHT,
OR LEFT.
INWARDS FACE
QUICK MARCH.

3. *When the square is to march.*—In order to move with the necessary regularity previously to putting the square in motion, the instructor will cause the faces to be dressed; and after the caution, he will give the words **INWARDS FACE**, and it will face in the named direction, and step off accordingly at the word **QUICK MARCH**.

HALT.
PREPARE TO
RESIST CA-
VALRY.
READY.

4. *To resist Cavalry.*—Upon the word **HALT**, the square will halt and face outwards, and when it is to **PREPARE TO RESIST CAVALRY**;—upon the word **READY**, the front rank only (if the square is two or three deep) will kneel; if four deep, the two front ranks will kneel. If ordered to fire, the standing ranks only will commence an independent fire, bringing the fire-lock gradually up to the present,

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*Reduce the
Square,
Quick March.*

When the square is to be reduced, two non-commissioned officers will mark the alignment facing the supposed enemy. On the word *Quick March*, the men open out, and fall in, in their proper places.

In this manner small dispersed parties, from eight to eighty men, may be formed to resist an attack of cavalry in an open country, where from whatever cause, soldiers may have separated from the column of march.

When a company, or other small body in close files, requires to form to resist cavalry, it may be wheeled forward into column of sections, and closed to the front. When halted, the two rear sections face to the right about, and the two outward files of the second and third sections face to their right and left, so as to present a front in all directions. The men on the angles also face to their right and left.

END OF PART II.

PART III.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE MOVEMENTS OF A BATTALION.

Commands.

ALL words of command must be given, short, quick, and loud, so as to be heard and understood from right to left of a battalion in line; or from front to rear of a battalion in column. The confidence and prompt obedience of the soldier can only be in proportion to the firm, decided, and proper manner in which every one gives his orders.

Degrees of March.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| General inten-
tion | 1. All military movements are intended to be made with quickness, consistent with order, regularity, and without hurry or fatigue to the troops. |
| Slow March. | 2. The slow step is particularly applicable to purposes of parade, and occasionally to the march of extended lines. |
| Quick March. | 3. The <i>Quick March</i> is the usual pace to be applied to all general movements of battalions, or greater bodies, in column or line. |
| Double
March. | 4. The <i>Double March</i> is only to be applied to the movements of the divisions of a battalion; that is, to the interior movements of the divisions of a battalion when forming on any of its fixed parts. It cannot be applied to the movements of greater bodies, without exhausting the men, except upon peculiar occasions for a short distance; as in a charge or where a post or position is to be seized, or the wheel of a column to be performed. In echelon movements the <i>Double March</i> may be safely applied to sub-divisions or sections, when used in rapid formations from line to square, and from square to line, or for quickly throwing back or forward a flank; but not to the march of companies or strong divisions in echelon changes of front or position. The double march must never be applied to file marching except in the formation of square on the two centre sub-divisions. |
| Oblique
March. | 5. The instruction for the oblique step is still necessary, in the drill of the recruit, for the obvious purpose |

Directin
Sergeant

of giving him the essential habit of moving obliquely without affecting the square position of his body to the front, and this is highly useful to prevent crowding, or opening out, and to preserve correctness in line marching.

Marching in Line.

1. The march in line, either to front or rear, is the most important and most difficult of all movements, and requires every exertion of commanding officers and every attention of officers and men for its true attainment.—The essential points to be observed, are, the perpendicular direction of the march to the front of the battalion as then standing;—the perfect squareness of shoulders and body of each individual;—the light touch of the files to the directing point;—and the accurate equality of cadence and step given by advanced sergeants.

Directing
Sergeants.

2. Every individual should therefore be well prepared for this movement. But to ensure its correct execution three directing sergeants must be formed in the centre of the battalion; upon whose exact cadence, step, squareness of body, and precision of movement, dependence can be placed. They will be posted as follows; one between the colours in the front rank, covered by another in the rear rank, and again covered by a third in the supernumerary rank.

3. At all times when the battalion is formed in line, and directed to advance, the front directing sergeant, of the three who lead the line, takes six paces to his front and halts; the two other sergeants who were covering him pass through the interval, and move upon each side of him; an officer or sergeant, from the rear replaces the leading sergeant, in the front rank, and is again covered by the sergeant major six or eight paces in rear of the line. These three points being corrected by the adjutant, or a mounted officer, a fourth point in prolongation is easily obtained. If a distinct and visible object should present itself in the true line, the mounted officer will order the directing sergeant to march upon it. If this be not the case, the directing sergeant (after being assured by the mounted officer that he himself is perfectly and squarely placed,) will, by casting his eyes down the centre of his body, from the junction of his heels, take up and prolong a line perpendicular to himself and to the

PART III.

battalion; for this purpose he will observe and take up any accidental small point on the ground within 100 or 150 paces. Intermediate ones cannot be wanting, and their renewal is easy, as he successively approaches them in his march.

4. These preparatory arrangements being made, the mounted officer will give the word "*Steady*," as a signal that the line of direction is determined.

5. When the battalion advances, the sergeant-major will remain steady in the rear of the line for 20 or 30 paces, to ascertain under the directions of the mounted officer, the squareness and correctness of the line of march. If no waving or crowding in the line appear, the direction is certainly true, and the sergeant-major will then follow in the rear, covering as before.

6. Upon the caution that the battalion is to retire, the directing sergeants will face about, and the same arrangements are made as directed for the advance. The rear-rank men must avoid closing their files more than usual, otherwise the front men, who are in general larger, will be crowded in their ranks.

Wheeling.

1. The manner of performing the wheels of a division is sufficiently explained in the first and second parts. (S. 21, Part I. and S. 7, Part II.) It is shewn that they are made on halted and moveable pivots; and may only be necessary to add an explanation of the circumstances under which each description of wheel is respectively adopted.

2. Wheels are made on a halted pivot from line into column, and from column into line.

3. The principle of the moveable pivot (Vide S. 21, Part I.) must always be applied to the wheel of divisions marching in column. And in column of route and manœuvre, when at less than full distance, the new direction should be taken at an angle, so obtuse with the former line of march as not to require more than a wheel of one-eighth (for half distance,) and one sixteenth (for quarter distance) of the circle; otherwise, the arc of the circle to be wheeled would so much exceed the distance between divisions, that crowding must be the consequence. If the change of direction in such columns is to be made at an angle more acute than the above pro-

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portions, or at a right angle with the line of march, it must be performed gradually, (unless performed by battalions at once, vide S. 10. No. 5, Part III.)—the word "*Forward*" being always given when the wheel of the above-named extent has been completed,—and then the wheel to be repeated, if necessary, when a few paces more advanced. And if the leaders of each division follow with scrupulous attention, the changes of direction of the division in their front—giving the word "*Right* (or *Left*) *Shoulders Forward*" at the same spot, and then "*Forward*" at the moment when the division is square with the one preceding, the distances, and the whole regularity of the march will be preserved. It may be observed, however, that a column of very small divisions may follow and conform to the windings and turnings of the head, without repeating the word, *Shoulders forward* which should be given by the head division upon all occasions.

Wheel of di-
visions may
be made for-
ward or
backward.

4. Wheels of divisions may be made either forward or backward. In progressive movement they are made forward, but particular occasions require that they should be made **BACKWARD**, on the pivot flank: In this manner the line may wheel into open column of companies, sub-divisions, or sections, and be prolonged when necessary to either flank, the pivots being thus preserved.—The wheel backwards is also advantageously used in marching off parades, where guards are of different strengths, and is often essentially necessary in narrow grounds. By this means, although divisions should be unequal, either in the same battalion, or in a line, yet all their pivot flanks will, after the wheel, remain truly dressed; of course, the distance will be just, the line of marching accurately preserved, and each division, by afterwards wheeling up, will exactly occupy the identical ground it quitted. The backwards wheel, however, need not be practised where the ground is uneven, and the divisions stronger than 15 or 16 files; where this is the case, the command will be **FORM OPEN COLUMN RIGHT** (OR **LEFT**) **IN FRONT**; upon which the pivot men face as required, and the divisions are **FACED TO THE RIGHT ABOUT—RIGHT** (OR **LEFT**) **WHEEL**; and are *halted* and *fronted* by the leaders of each when the wheel is performed.

How perfor-
med.

5. If the divisions of a battalion are kept equalized (which they ought always to be for the purposes of manœuvre,) they may wheel in succession upon the reverse as well as the pivot flank, without deranging the line of covering ; but where divisions happen to be unequal, and that they are to wheel successively on the reverse flank, a strong division must wheel at a point short of the preceding one, by the space of as many files as the strength of the latter is exceeded, and a weak division must overpass the wheeling point of its preceding stronger one, by the space of as many files as it is deficient.

Necessary
recollections

6. It appears that the number of paces of 30 inches, comprised in the front of any division or body, is nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of the number of files of which it is composed ; and that the number of files being once ascertained in each division, the officer commanding it must on all occasions recollect the number of paces that are equal to his front.

Table of the Number of Paces corresponding to a given Number of Files.

Number of Files in a division, each occupying 21 inches.	5	10	12	14	15	16	18	20	30	40	50	100						
Front of divisions in paces of 30 inches.	3	15	7	8	12	9	24	10	15	11	6	12	18	14	21	28	35	70

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PART III.

The Alignment.

1. To march in an **ALIGNEMENT** is to make troops march in any straight line which joins two given points,—or to form upon any such given line.

Points of Formation.

Covering
Sergeants.

1. A sergeant will be placed, upon *all occasions* of formation of lines, in front of each flank file of the company named as the base, facing to the right if the formation is on the right company, to the left if on the left company, and inwards if on any other company: and a covering sergeant will run out from each company as it arrives within twenty paces of the point of formation, and will cover at a distance of the division in the line established by the sergeants in front of the base who will remain steady until the third company from them receives the words *Eyes front*, when they will pass to the rear. The covering sergeant of the next company will also remain steady until the third company from him receives the words *Eyes front*, and so on until the line is formed. In this manner each covering sergeant will have two points to cover upon; and each division will always have two points upon which it will be brought parallel to the general line, and independent of the divisions already formed; and if the points are well taken up, and the divisions properly conducted, little dressing will be necessary.

Points to be
always kept
clear.

2. It is most essential that these sergeants, who are so many intermediate points, connecting the flank of appui with the outer flank point of the battalion, should be always kept clear for the view of division officers.—Divisions must therefore “*dress up*” to them upon *all occasions*. (Vide *Deployments and Echellon Movements*, S. 36, 40, and 41, Part III.)

Base points.

3. Whenever a company is named as the base of a formation, two sergeants belonging to it will immediately spring out and give the base for the covering points.—When formations are made upon the centre, the intermediate points of each wing will cover the central base; and upon change of front on the colours, one of the supernumerary sergeants of the centre will place himself in the new front before the colours, and the covering sergeants of the two centre companies will change places.

Covering
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Covering Sergeants in change of position by the open column.

4. When a line changes its front in any direction, by means of the open column, a covering sergeant from each division will always run out twenty paces before the division reaches the new alignment, to mark its distance; and he will cover, at the proper pivot flank, upon the point or formation.

5. When formations to line or changes of position are made by sub-divisions or sections, the covering sergeants of companies are sufficient to take up points.

Dressing.

The officer or non-commissioned officer, in dressing, is placed on that flank of his division to which the men's eyes are turned; and from the second file from the flank of the company towards which his wheeling flank moves from column, or his inward flank from echelon, he makes his corrections on his intermediate point, and the battalion point, which is previously marked by the adjutant, or some other person placed in the true general line.

Open Column.

Formation of open column from line.

1. When a column is to be formed from line, it may be done by the wheel of divisions; either backward or forward. Upon the caution, the leaders of divisions place themselves close before the centre of their companies, facing to the front; the pivots face, and a supernumerary sergeant of the right or left company (according to which flank is to be in front) runs out, and places himself at the point where the wheeling flank of that company is to rest at the completion of the wheel; the covering sergeants of the whole fall back one pace; and the supernumerary rank closes up within one pace of the rear rank. When the wheel is performed, the covering sergeant covers the second file from the pivot flank.

2. When divisions march by threes, in order to take up a new alignment in open column, either to the front or rear, the sergeant of each, successively as it arrives at 20 paces from that line, runs out, takes his distance, covering in the alignment, and remains as a point on which his officer will conduct his division, and afterwards occupy. When such change of front is made from line to the front, each-covering sergeant, in taking

distance for his own company, becomes the point upon which the division next in front must be directed, and he resumes his station (by the reverse flank) in rear of his own company as soon as his place is taken by the officer. In changes to the rear, the sergeants in like manner take distance for their own company, which in this case will also form upon them.

Covering of
pivots.

3. In column, divisions cover and dress to the proper pivot flank; to the left when the right is in front; and to the right when the left is in front. The proper pivot flank in column is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in their natural order, and to their proper front; the other is called the reverse flank.

Posting of
Sergeants.

4. The covering sergeant accompanies and assists the leader of a company in all his movements, and preserves his place whenever the officer's duty requires him to quit it.

5. When the column marches, if the officer is in front of the company, the sergeant is on the pivot of the front rank, and is answerable for the division distance. If the officer remains on the pivot flank, the sergeant then falls back behind the rear rank, and covers the second file from the pivot.

Column of
sub-divisions.

6. When the battalion is in column of sub-divisions, if there is no second officer, the covering sergeant takes the flank of the second sub-division.

Column of
sections and
threes, and
files.

7. In column of sections the covering sergeant takes the flank of the second section, if there is not a third subaltern to command it. If there is a third subaltern, giving an officer to every section, then the covering sergeant will cover the second file from the pivot flank of the leading section. In the march by threes, the officer commanding the division is placed on the inner flank of the leading section of threes. The covering sergeant leads the centre file. In file marching the covering sergeant leads the front rank.

In counter-
marches.

8. When divisions counter-march in columns, the position of the covering sergeant is the same as that laid down in the counter-march of a single company. (S. 13. Part II.)

9. The same observation applies to the counter-march by ranks. (S. 13. Part II.)

Formation
of line from
open column

Column of
March.

Music,
Drummers,
&c.

Formation
of line from
open column.

10. On the caution officers move to the centre of their companies, one pace from the front rank ; their covering sergeants placing themselves on the right of each, if the wheel is to be to the left, or behind the pivot file, if the wheel is to be to the right, and a sergeant of the leading company of the battalion runs up and places himself in the new alignment, to mark where the wheeling flank of that company is to rest. Pivot men of the front rank face square into the new direction, and the rear rank locks up to the front rank. The whole wheel up and halt. Officers dress the interior of their companies, and then replace their sergeants, who are now in the front rank.

Column of
March.

11. The rear divisions of a column, either of march or manœuvre, will constantly follow every turning which the head may make ; each successively changing its direction at the same point with the leading division ; and although in route marching the files of a division may be permitted to loosen, and move with freedom, yet the pivot files must carefully preserve their place and distance, at all times, under the constant superintendence of an officer of each division. In long marches, officers and pivot files may be frequently relieved in these essential attentions. Preparatory to any relaxation in route marching, the words MARCH AT EASE, should be given, when the soldiers may be allowed to open their files, carry their arms as they please, and converse. The officers may march likewise at ease, and with the exception of the officer charged with the superintendence of the pivot files, they will be found most useful in the rear of their companies. At the word ATTENTION, files are closed, the step taken up, silence preserved, and arms sloped. In this restored order, all alterations of front, formations, &c., should be executed.

Music,
Drummers,
&c.

12. In passing in Review Order, the drummers are with the music in front ; in Field Movements the drummers and music are in the rear, when the battalion is in line, and on the reverse flank when in column.

Close Column.

1. When close columns are formed, the companies, or divisions, are one pace distant, measuring from the heels of the rear rank to the heels of the front rank.— On the caution being given, the covering sergeant of the

named company, places himself in front or rear of the officer, who will shift, if necessary, to the flank which is to become the pivot one of the column. The covering sergeants of the remaining companies, when within 20 paces of the proper pivot point, will step out to take up the distance, and the covering in column. The covering sergeant will remain steady until he is replaced by his officer, when he will cover his officer in the rear rank. All supernumeraries take post on the reverse flank of the column, and in deployment will halt with their respective companies. If a close column is formed from any more open columns, the covering sergeants will not run out, but remain during the march in rear of their respective companies, and when halted cover their officers.

2. The column at quarter distance partakes of all the properties, and is capable of all the formations and deployments, applied to close column, but the covering sergeants and supernumerary rank are posted as laid down for open column.

3. Upon the caution for the column to wheel, the covering sergeant of the front company will move out to mark where the outer flank of the column will rest when the wheel is complete; and in order to perform the wheel without crowding at the inner flank, the flank file, whether officer or man, must be the pivot upon which the wheel is made, and thus the whole column wheels as a division, under the direction of the commanding officer.

4. In order, also, to avoid crowding in the wheel of a close column, it is necessary that, upon the wheel being ordered, all the rear divisions make a half face to the reverse flank, each file, on the word *Quick* or *Double March*, and during the wheel, circling round and covering the relative files of the division in front; the officers and covering sergeants will circle in the same way round the officers in their front, and continue their attention to the covering.

5. In the same manner the rear divisions will make a half face to the reverse flank, when the wheel is made at quarter distance: but in order to preserve the quarter distance accurately, the leading division will advance six paces on the word *Quick* or *Double March*, and will

Column at
quarter dis-
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Wheel in
close co-
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Special at-
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From close
and quarter
distance co-
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central com-
pany.

Direct
Echelon.

Oblique
echelon.

wheel at a shortened pace round the pivot man (who instantly faces in the new direction,) while each succeeding division will advance in circling round to quarter distance, which will leave room for the divisions of the rear wing to circle into their relative positions at that distance.—Thus, in all such wheels at quarter distance, the battalion must gain six paces to its front. In wheeling on the moveable pivot, the rear divisions make a *half-turn* towards the shoulder brought forward, and the front division wheels and advances at a shortened pace in the new direction, the rear division circling round.

Deployments.

If from close column the covering and a supernumerary sergeant from the named company move in front of the flank files of the leading division and face inwards, thus forming the base for the new line.

If from quarter distance column, by sections of threes, the covering and supernumerary sergeants act as laid down for the close column, but take up the points *three* paces in front of the leading division.

Echellon.

Direct
Echellon.

1. The direct echellon is where the divisions of a battalion march off successively from a flank, at equal distances from one another.

Oblique
echellon.

2. The oblique or wheeled echellon is where the divisions of a battalion are previously wheeled into an oblique direction, for the purpose of gaining ground to a flank.

3. Whenever the divisions of a battalion are cautioned to wheel forward or backward any named number of paces in echellon position, the covering sergeants post themselves before or behind the centre of the eighth file from the standing flank, and take the ordered number of paces on the circumference of the circle. When the divisions have been respectively wheeled, and received the word *Eyes front*, these sergeants place themselves on the outward flanks. Great accuracy is required from sergeants in taking these paces, as upon them depends the correctness of the echellon.

4. When divisions, wheeled into echellon, form line upon a division already formed in their front, the covering sergeants will run out to take up the distance and

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covering in the intended line, when the divisions in march shall respectively approach to twenty paces from the division already placed, covering from the point on which the formation is made.

Firings.

1. When the battalion fires by divisions, the sergeants take the places of the officers, who have moved to the rear.

FORMATION OF THE BATTALION.

Formation of the Battalion.

When the companies join, and the battalion is formed, there is to be no interval between any of them, grenadier, light company, or other; but every part of the front of the battalion should be equally strong.

Each company which makes a part of the same line, and is to act in it, must be formed and arranged in the same manner.

Position of the companies in battalion.

The companies will draw up as follows, from right to left, viz—grenadiers on the right, light company on the left, the other companies 1, 2, 3, &c., from right to left.

Divisions.

The battalion will be told off as follows, viz—into right and left wings. By companies divided into right and left sub-divisions, into four sections numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, and into sections of threes.

Companies equalized.

The companies may be equalized in point of numbers when the battalion is formed for field movement; but it is also desirable that they should be accustomed to exercise in companies of unequal strength, as must often be the case on service.

Formation of the battalion at close order.

Ranks are at the distance of one pace.

All field officers and the adjutant are mounted.

The commanding officer is the only officer advanced in front, for the general purpose of exercise when the battalion is single; but in the march in line, and in the firings, he is in the rear of the colours.

The lieutenant-colonel is behind the colours, twelve paces from the supernumerary rank.

The first major is six paces in the rear of the second battalion company from the right flank: the second major at the same distance in the rear of second battalion company from the left flank: the adjutant at the same distance in the rear of the colours.

Use of the third, or supernumerary rank.

Officers.

Replacing Sergeants.

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BATTALION.

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One officer is on the right of the front rank of each company, and one on the left of the battalion; all these are covered in the rear rank by their respective sergeants; and the remaining officers and sergeants are in a third rank behind their companies.

The colours are placed between the two centre companies, both in the front rank, and each covered by a non-commissioned officer, or steady man in the rear rank. One sergeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours: he is covered by a second sergeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the supernumerary rank. The sole business of these three sergeants is, where the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march as hereafter mentioned. The place of the first of those sergeants, when they do move out, is preserved by a named officer or sergeant, who moves up from the supernumerary rank for that purpose.

Use of the
third, or su-
pernumer-
ary rank.

The supernumerary rank is at three paces distance when in line; when in column, it is at the distance of one pace. The essential use of the supernumerary rank is, to keep the others closed up to the front during the attack, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear; on this important service, too many officers and non-commissioned officers cannot be employed.

The pioneers are assembled behind the centre of the grenadier company, formed two deep, and nine paces from the supernumerary rank.

The drummers, fifers, and buglers of the battalion are assembled in two divisions, nine paces behind the supernumerary rank of the first and last battalion companies.

The musicians are nine paces from the supernumerary rank, in rear of the centre of the battalion, formed two deep and at loose files, only occupying no more space than is necessary.

The staff, consisting of the paymaster, surgeon, assistant-surgeon, and quarter-master, are three paces behind the music.

Officers.

Replacing
Sergeants.

In general, officers remain posted with their proper companies; but commanding officers will occasionally make such changes as they may find necessary.

Whenever the officers move out of the front rank, in parade, marching in column, wheeling into line, or otherwise, their places are taken by their sergeant coverers,

or senior subalterns, as may be ordered, and preserved until the officers again resume them.

When the Battalion takes Open Order.

*Rear rank
take Open
Order.*

At the word *Order*, officers recover swords, and move at once close in front of the files opposite which they are to stand,—that is, the captain in front of the second file from the right of the company, the senior subaltern in front of the second file from the left, and the third subaltern in front of the centre file—if there is a fourth officer the distance between the flanks will be divided.—The sergeant coverers take a pace to the left to allow the officers to pass, and then move up to the front rank to preserve the intervals left by the officers. The flank men on the right of the rear rank of each company step briskly back one pace, to mark the ground upon which the rank is to halt; they face to the right, and cover as pivots, corrected by the sergeant-major on the right.

March.

At this word, the rear rank steps back one pace, dressing by the right; the officers of companies march three paces direct to the front, glance their eyes to the right, correct their dressing, and port their swords at the word *Steady* from the major, who dresses them. The officers with the colours march forward three lengthened paces, and dress in the line of officers.

The music, drummers, and pioneers remain as posted at close order. The first major places himself on the right of the line of officers: the second major on their left; the adjutant on the left of the front rank. The staff, viz., the paymaster, surgeon, assistant-surgeon, and quarter-master, place themselves on the right of the front rank of the grenadiers at one pace distance. The colonel and lieutenant-colonel advance ten and six paces before the colours.

The whole thus arrive at their several posts, and the battalion remains formed in this parade order, to receive a superior officer.—When the battalion is reviewed singly, the division of drummers will be moved up and formed two deep on each flank of the line: the pioneers will be formed two deep on the right of the drummers of the right, and the staff will form on the right of the whole.

*Rear Rank
take Close
Order.*

March.

Colours.

When the Battalion resumes Close Order.

*Rear Rank
take Close
Order.*

The officers recover swords, and, with the colours and staff, face to the right.

The drummers and pioneers (if on the flanks) face to the centre.

March.

The sergeants (if in the front rank) face to the right.

The covering sergeants take three side steps to the right, and one full pace to the rear, to allow the officers to pass.

The rear rank closes within one pace.

The sergeants, drummers, pioneers, &c. &c. resume their places, each as in the original formation of the battalion in close order.

The officers move through and into their respective intervals, and each individual arrives and places himself properly at his post in close order.

Colours.

When the battalion wheels by companies or sub-divisions to either flank into column, both colours and the directing sergeants always wheel to the proper front, and place themselves behind the third, fourth and fifth file from the new pivot.

END OF PART III.

PART IV.

LIGHT INFANTRY.

Signals and Sounds for regulating Movements.

1. Signals and sounds are necessary in various situations ; they are intended as substitutes for the voice : but as they are liable to be misunderstood, they should never be resorted to, excepting when the voice cannot reach ; or for the purposes of drill and instruction.

To be as few
and as simple
as possible.

2. For this reason, and as the same sound upon a different key, or in different time is apt to occasion mistakes, they ought to be as few and as simple as possible.

No movement to be
executed
until the last
sound of the
bugle

3. No movement should ever be executed until the bugle sound is perfectly finished ; and in the combinations of the sounds with the "*Fire*," that sound should always be the *last*, otherwise the company might immediately commence a fire upon the spot ; and if the march or retreat were to follow, it would not be heard.

4. The following sounds appear sufficient for every situation in which light infantry can be employed :—

THE OFFICERS' CALL, { as established, and therefore
 { not numbered.

I. To *EXTEND*—from that part of the line where the bugle sounds, except preceded by the distinguishing G.

II. To *CLOSE*—to the spot from whence it proceeds, and for skirmishers to run in upon the supports except preceded by the distinguishing G.

III. To *ADVANCE*—in order of the present formation.

IV. To *HALT*—in the same order ; except in retiring by alternate ranks, in which case they form up to the front. The *halt* annuls all previous sounds except to *fire*.

V. To *FIRE*.—If when halted, they fire upon the spot, skirmishers selecting their objects. If on the march, whether advancing in a general line, or retiring by alternate ranks, the men of a file fire alternately, one being always loaded.

VI. *CEASE FIRING*.—Every man to cease firing and load.

Distinction
between the
assembly
and the
close.

VII. **TO RETREAT.**—When not firing, to retire immediately in *quick* time. The line, reserves, and skirmishers, facing to the right about, if no other order or rate is specified.

VIII. **ASSEMBLY.**—This sound may be used on many occasions, viz., to turn out a corps, or company, at any time by day or night : to repair to a place of rendezvous previously appointed, when extended as skirmishers, and surprised by cavalry in open ground. For skirmishers, with their supports and reserves, to run in upon the battalion.

IX. **INCLINE TO THE RIGHT.**—If on the march, *Left shoulders forward*. If halted, the skirmishers will take ground to the right in file.

X. **INCLINE TO THE LEFT.**—*Right shoulders forward*, or *Left face*, according as the skirmishers may be in motion or halted.

XI. THE ALARM.

5. The following signals being repetitions, or combinations of the preceding sounds are not numbered.

THE ADVANCE and RETREAT.—Sounded when inclining to a flank, indicate that sufficient space has been gained to a flank, and that the original direction is to be resumed. When a line of skirmishers, or an advanced or rear guard, is required to occupy more space to the right and left, the bugle will sound from the centre extend, upon which they will open out to one half more than their original extension.

6. If when the battalion or company is detached, the skirmishers have to close, they always run in upon the supports in the *first* place, and the assembly will afterwards be the signal for the *whole* to close in upon the battalion ; but if the assembly sounds first, without any close, it is a signal for the whole to make the best of their way to the rear of the battalion ; in which case they must move as rapidly as they can, as this implies the necessity of greater expedition ; the supports fall back in steady double time. If skirmishers are pursued when the assembly is sounded, they should be taught to keep wide of the battalion.

7. **THE ADVANCE—RETREAT—HALT—FIRE—CEASE FIRING**, are the only sounds which should be repeated by all the buglers on every occasion,

Distinction
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How the use of the bugle may be increased.

8. The use of the bugle may be considerably increased by adopting the use of three simple G's, as distinguishing sounds.

One G. to denote the right of the line.

Two G's, the centre.

Three G's, the left.

This preceding any sound, denotes the part of the line to which it applies. For instance two G's, before the **EXTEND**, signifies to extend from the centre. One G followed by the **CLOSE**, signifies to close to the right.—When no G is prefixed to the **EXTEND**, it will mean from that part of the line where the bugle sounds.

9. There should be a pause of three seconds between all orders by sounds.

10. Signals by bugle sounds do not apply to bodies of troops in reserve.

Time of movement.

11. When no particular time is specified, light infantry movements, in close order, will usually be in quick time, formations from file or on the march excepted.—Formations from extended order, and extensions on the march, are in double time, subject always to the discretion of the commanding officer, who will never apply it so as to harass or exhaust the men unnecessarily.—There are, however, occasions of constant occurrence upon service where no other time will suit;—such, for example, as to seize an advantageous point, & in formations on the march, when it is desirable that the leading company (or section) of a column should continue to advance while the line is rapidly formed upon it, by those in the rear bringing shoulders forward, and moving up in double time, each company following and conforming to the movement of the one in front of it, without waiting for any word of command.

Detail of Formation.

1. When soldiers are drilled by word of command, they move at the *last* word, which should be given short:—

PACES—FROM THE RIGHT—EXTEND.

PACES—FROM THE CENTRE—EXTEND, &c.

TO THE RIGHT—CLOSE, &c.

ADVANCE—HALT—FIRE—RETIRE, &c.

Light companies should often be practised in judging their own distance of files; the points on which the flanks are to rest being previously notified.

To extend from the halt.

Distance Files.

To fire in extended order on the spot.

To cease firing.

To fire kneeling on the spot.

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As soon as the order is given, (either by word of command, or by bugle,) the officers drop to the rear, the captain places himself in the rear of the centre; the first lieutenant is in rear of the right, the second in rear of the left; the third subaltern remains with the captain, ready to receive his orders. The sergeants fall likewise to the rear. At the last sound of the bugle, the named file stands fast; the remainder trail arms, face, and extend in quick time, unless ordered to move at the double march.

2. The front-rank men of files move straight before them, covering correctly on the march; their respective rear-rank men cast their eye over the inward shoulder, and tap their front-rank men, at the distance of two, four, six, or any other given number of paces, as a signal for them to halt, front and order arms.

*Distance of
Files.*

3. The paces are indicated by the previous caution of the commanding officer; but if no number is specified, six paces is the regulated distance between the files. If the left-hand file, who leads on this occasion, be a steady man, and has moved correctly on his front, the line will require little dressing; too much attention to which, in extended order, is to be carefully avoided. If the distance between the files be not correct, it must not be altered by closing or opening out: this can only be done upon the march.

*To fire in
extended or-
der on the
spot.*

4. So soon as the "Fire" has sounded, the front rank men fire and commence loading, and the rear-rank men (when it is their turn to fire) take a step of ten inches to the right with the right foot, and as soon as they have fired, they will again cover their front-rank men and load.

*To cease
firing.*

5. In this manner the firing is continued until the bugle sounds the "Cease." After this sound, not a shot must be heard; the unloaded men re-load as rapidly as possible, and the whole then remain steady, and ready to move.

*To fire kneel-
ing on the
spot.*

6. This caution is repeated by the officers; and where there is any deficiency of them, by the sergeants, along the line. The bugle sounds the "Fire," and the whole drop instantly on the knee. The right knee is on the ground and the right leg to the rear. The rear-rank man, in coming down, disengages to the right, so as to

PART IV.

be able to fire clear of his front-rank man. The firing proceeds as before, with this difference, that the rear-rank men retain their place, and continue disengaged to avoid the awkward movement of covering and uncovering upon their knees.

To fire lying.

7. The caution to *Lie down* is given as above, and at the "*Fire*," the whole drop on both knees, (the rear rank men disengaging,) and throw themselves on their bellies; the firing proceeds as before; the men load on their knees, or they may load lying, though the latter is an objectionable position, and very liable to accident.—Riflemen may fire on their backs in favorable situations; in this position the feet are crossed, the right foot passing through the sling of the rifle, and the piece supported by it; but this position is not suited to the musket of light infantry companies of the line; it furnishes a steady aim with a rifle. If, in a very exposed situation, the soldier attempts to load lying, he will, after priming, roll over on his back, and placing the butt between his legs, the lock upwards, and the muzzle a little elevated, draw his ramrod and go on with his loading without exposure, rolling over on his breast again when ready to fire.

The line will advance.

8. At the last sound of the bugle to "*Advance*," the whole step off in quick time, keeping their distances from the centre.

The line will retire.

9. At the last sound of the bugle the whole go to the left about and retire together, rear rank leading.

To fire advancing.

10. At this signal the front rank man of each file fires, and instantly drops to the rear, by the left of his comrade, and loads upon the march; and as soon as he is loaded, he will give the word "*Ready*," in an undertone of voice, and the other man fires and proceeds in the same manner, taking care that both men are never unloaded at the same time. The men must cover their file leaders, who, without withdrawing their attention from the object in their front, can with a glance of the eye avoid losing distance, or getting before or behind the file next to them towards their centre.

NOTE.—When any difficulty is experienced in loading on the march, (with riflemen for example,) the men, after firing, may drop to the rear, and halt to load, running up to their file leaders (who continue moving on) when loaded, and giving the word "*Ready*," as

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*To fire re-
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Halt.

To close.

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before—so on alternately. In parade practice, however, on open ground, it is desirable that the men should always go through the motions on the march, as it tends to make them expert and handy with their arms.

To fire re-
tiring.

11. If in motion, the whole halt; the front rank men give their fire, and move straight to the rear, loading on the march; when their loading is completed, they will halt, front, and kneel down in the position of making ready. Then the rear rank men (who had kneeled down when their front rank men retired) will fire and retire smartly in the same manner, passing to the proper left of their front rank men, and commencing their loading as soon as they have passed, halt, front, and kneel when loaded, as before:—thus the ranks continue to retire alternately, as soon as they hear the ramrods working of the rank that has retired. In the field, however, the distance to be taken by each rank in retreating will depend upon the movements of the enemy, the nature of the ground, and other circumstances; but when cover presents itself at hand, the men should always avail themselves of it.

Halt.

12. At this signal, if *advancing*, the skirmishers kneel down, taking advantage of any inequalities of the ground in their neighborhood, and continuing to fire until the *Cease firing* has sounded. If the skirmishers are *retiring*, the rank next the enemy will stand fast (or face about if not already fronting towards the enemy,) and the other rank closes up to it, kneeling down; and the whole continue firing, taking care that both ranks are never unloaded at the same time.

To close.

13. On the signal being sounded, the men trail arms, face to the point required, close in quick time, and order arms. If *on the march*, the named file moves steadily on, the remainder make a half turn and close in double time.

To extend
while a divi-
sion is ad-
vancing;
from the cen-
tre, from the
right or from
the left.

14. In all these cases, the files from which the extension takes place, move straight forward in quick time; the others make a half turn to the flank to which they are ordered to extend, and move off at double time. As soon as each file has got its regular distance it will turn to the front, and advance, resuming the quick time; rear rank men covering their front rank men, and keeping in line with the directing file.

To incline to the right. Incline to the left, advance.

15. The skirmishers make a half turn to the flanks to which they are ordered to incline, (rear rank men covering their front rank men,) and continue in the diagonal direction, until the "*Advance*" is sounded, when they will return to their original front, and move forward as before. If, when the skirmishers have made the half turn, the bugle should sound the "*Incline*," a second time, the men's shoulders should be brought up, so as to complete the face, and march in file.

To fire inclining to a flank.

16. To fire when inclining to the right or left, the front rank men halt, take steady aim and fire, then drop to the rear, passing behind their rear rank men, and loading on the march; the rear rank men halt and fire as soon as their front rank men are loaded, and drop to the rear of their front rank, and so on alternately.

To halt from the incline.

17. At this signal, the whole front, and kneel down, continuing to fire until the signal for "*Cease firing*" has sounded.

Change front; to the right, on the right file. Double March.

18. The right file faces to the right, kneeling; the others rise & trail; at the word *Double march*, they bring the left shoulders forward, and form on the right file.—The distance will be preserved from the halted flank. Each file will move in the shortest line to its situation in the new position, and instantly kneel down.

Right or left shoulders forward.

19. But in throwing a wing backward or forward, the distance of files must be preserved from the inward flank, and they must look to the outward flank for dressing, and bring forward the shoulders gradually, conformably to its progress.

Change front: on the left file, right thrown back. Double March.

20. The left hand file faces to the *right*, kneeling.—The others rise up, trail, and face to the right about; step off at the double march, and when in line, face about and kneel.

General remark.

21. The movements and formations laid down in this section comprise the elementary part of light infantry drill in extended order, as taught the soldier on parade. The application of the drill to field purposes, comprising the instruction of the soldier in the value of ground, &c., will be treated of in the next and subsequent sections, which have for their object the training of the soldier to a practical knowledge of his duties in the field before an enemy.

Detached Skirmishers

General line of skirmishers

To advance in a general line, firing.

Skirmishing.

1. A company, or companies, may extend by files from any part of the line, and at various distances, as may be ordered; and it is a rule that the men of a file invariably act together, to inspire confidence, and to afford mutual protection and support.

Detached
Skirmishers.

2. Detached skirmishers are governed by circumstances and situations; they must, never however, get too far in advance, so as to expose their flanks, but must regulate their movements by the files upon their right and left. They will fire either standing, kneeling, or lying, as the case may require, ever bearing in mind that the grand requisites in skirmishing are, sure, quick, and steady aim, together with that ready tact in seizing, at a glance, those local advantages which enable a man to do the utmost injury to his enemy, with the least exposure to himself.

General line
of skirmishers.

3. In the field, skirmishers advance in a general line, pushing on, or falling back from post to post, and never standing exposed even for an instant, when there is cover of any kind at hand. It is therefore always proper, when obliged to advance, across an open space, upon an enemy posted under cover, to make a quick and simultaneous rush towards the point; a regular and systematic advance across such ground, however resolutely conducted, would entail a great and very useless sacrifice of lives.

To advance
in a general
line, firing.

4. At the signal to FIRE, the front rank man of each file fires and instantly drops to the rear by the left of his comrade, and loads as quickly as he can upon the march, giving the word *Ready* when loaded, as the signal for his file leader (who has continued leading on, in a threatening attitude,) to fire. As often, however, as cover of any kind presents itself within reach, each file, in mutual concert, will make for it, one man running on while his comrade covers his advance, by aiming at the enemy, and distracting his attention; he then in turn runs forward, when the cover is secured, and both continue to fire from the spot as many shots as circumstances and the general movements of the line may sanction, always remembering, that the great object in advancing is to drive back the enemy's skirmishers, rapidly and in confusion, on their reserves, giving them no time for

rallying, or making a stand. It is by individual intelligence and judgement in the knowledge of ground and choice of cover—by the combination of individual exertion, directed to a general end, rather than by the semblance of uniformity, that the proficiency and excellence of light troops must be judged and estimated.

To retire firing.

5. On a plain the skirmishers may retire by alternate ranks, as prescribed in last section; but whenever the country is in the least degree wooded, broken, or inclosed, it will always be found advisable to retire in a general line, trusting to the skill of the officer, and the firmness and intelligence of the men, for disputing it successfully. By this method the well-trained skirmisher, whose eye is formed by practice, will often find cover and destroy his enemy, where his inexperienced comrade would stand exposed. Before moving, the skirmisher is taught to scan the ground he is to traverse in falling back, and having selected his next station, he will make for it with the utmost expedition. When a line of skirmishers is hard pressed in retreating, there is no better way of giving them relief, and at the same time of offering an obstinate resistance to the enemy, than by extending the supports as often as an eligible line of defence presents itself, the old skirmishers passing quickly through the new line forming into supports; again in turn extending, and so on alternately. Even on a plain this will be found to be the best mode of disputing the ground; the supports, after extending, should lie down until the old skirmishers have passed through them.

Accurately dressed lines no object in skirmishing.

6. Accurately dressed lines are not an object in skirmishing; the men must be guided entirely by the nature of the ground they are acting on; all that can be desired on this head is, that the file should be so placed as to support, and fire clear of each other.

Skirmishers to be carefully trained to a knowledge of ground and distances.

7. Cover, as already observed, being the great object to be attended to, skirmishers, whether advancing or retiring, must be taught carefully to examine the ground they are to pass over, previous to quitting shelter; and to select some eligible spot for their next halting place. Any open space to be traversed in advancing should always be run over; while, in retiring, they should endeavour, if the ground is open, to get beyond the accurate range of musketry from the spot they quit, before coming

General rule for loading.

All unnecessary bugling to be avoided.

General rule for the movement of supports.

Skirmishers to overlap the flanks of lines.

Relieving skirmishers, when fire.

When advancing.

When retiring.

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to a stand, thereby rendering the shelter they are leaving useless to the enemy; and obliging them, in coming on, to pass over such open space, exposed to the destructive fire of men who are both sheltered and prepared.

8. It is a rule that both men of a file are never unloaded at the same time; that they always load when practicable, under cover, previous to moving in advance, and after falling back in retreat, from one spot to another.

9. It will often be prudent to communicate orders to a line of skirmishers, by passing them along the rear, instead of betraying an intended movement by the bugle. For the "*retreat*" to one party is the "*advance*" to their opponents, who are generally well acquainted with the sounds and prepared to act upon them. Too much bugling under any circumstances is to be avoided, as tending to distract the attention of the soldier, and to cause confusion.

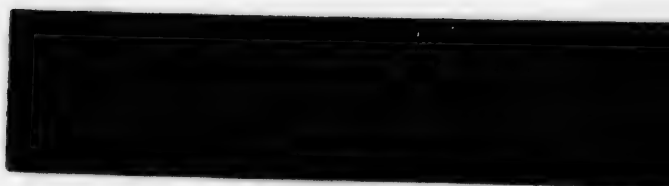
10. The supports advance and retire generally in line, except when threatened with cavalry, when they will move in close column of sections; and skirmishers, in running in on a support, form up in sections in its rear. Supports move to a flank in column of sections.

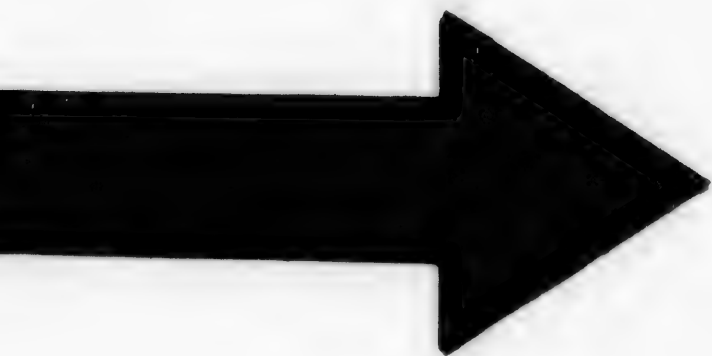
11. In covering the advance of lines, skirmishers will take care to protect and overlap the flanks.

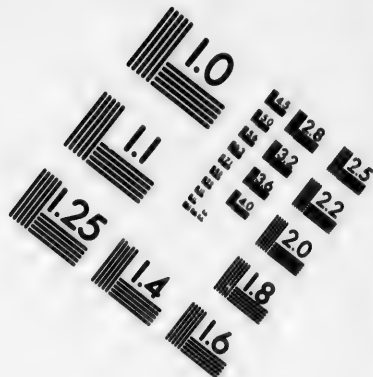
12. In relieving a line of skirmishers, the new line extends in the rear, out of reach of the enemy's fire, and afterwards runs up to the old line; each file of the former proceeding rapidly to the rear, under the protecting fire of the new line, and when out of reach of the enemy's fire, they close in upon their supports. But should an immediate advance be intended, the relieved skirmishers ought to remain in the line lying down, instead of exposing themselves to a fire whilst retiring.

13. If the relief takes place while advancing, the new skirmishers will run up in the same way, and pass briskly in front of the others; the old skirmishers lie down till they are out of the enemy's fire, after which they close upon their supports as before.

14. If relieving while retiring, the new skirmishers extend a considerable distance in the rear, and each man looks out for a good situation. The old skirmishers continue to retire in their usual order, until within







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20 or 30 paces of the former, they then run through them to the rear, until they are out of the reach of the enemy's fire, after which they close.

Supports and skirmishers to relieve each other.

15. Those who have been acting as supports may relieve their own skirmishers in this way—in which case the latter afterwards form in as many parties of support as the others consisted of, closing to the right and left accordingly, when out of reach of the enemy's fire, and always, when practicable, completing their ammunition.

The whole relieved, or strengthened, or diminished.

16. But if the reserves and skirmishers are *all* relieved by fresh parties, each of the supports preserves the relative position with respect to their *own* skirmishers, until the two lines have relieved each other.—Any *part* of a line of skirmishers may be relieved in the same manner; it may also be strengthened by throwing forward one or more companies or sections to particular parts of the line; in that case they must mix with the others, and divide the distances, or it may be weakened by calling in one or more sections; in which case the remaining skirmishers will extend to the right and left, so as to cover the vacancies of those who retired.

General rule to be observed when skirmishing at a distance from the column or line.

17. If a company be directed to skirmish at a distance, detached from the timely support of the column or line, one general principle must be observed, namely, that never more than one half must be sent forward to skirmish at a time; the other half remain formed and ready to support.

Flanking parties.

18. The company to perform this duty will extend its sub-divisions, so as to cover the entire flank, or flanks, of the column, with intermediate supports if necessary. The whole will move in file parallel to the column, and the leading file will take the outside flank skirmishers of the advanced guard for his general line of march. When the column halts, the flankers and supports face outwards to the enemy.

How the unity of companies when skirmishing is best preserved.

19. When more than one company is employed in skirmishing, one company should skirmish and another support. Unnecessary division of parts is always objectionable.

Skirmishers to clear the front of the

20. When a company is skirmishing in front of a battalion, and the **ASSEMBLY** sounds, it is of the utmost

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How to run in on the battalion.

Formation of square.

Rallying square.

Rallying square need not be formed when cover is at hand.

General remark.

consequence that the front of the battalion should be left clear as soon as possible.

21. The skirmishers, therefore, if detached to any distance, must endeavour instantly to discover the exact situation of the battalion, and decide in what direction to run in, adopting that mode which will least impede, and soonest leave it in a situation for firing or advancing.

22. When a battalion forms square, they will take the most direct and short way to the rear, and close up and compose the rear face.

23. If the skirmishers are *not called in* while the battalion performs any movement, they must, with the utmost rapidity, change their situation, so as to correspond with the new order of the battalion; and their attention and activity are chiefly required in protecting it during the change.

24. The ALARM followed by the ASSEMBLY will be sounded on the first appearance of the enemy's cavalry, when if there is no cover within reach, and not sufficient time to form on the support, the skirmishers will form the RALLYING SQUARE, the officer on whom it forms taking care so to station himself for its formation, as not to cloud the front of the support.

25. But when there is cover near, such as a hedge, ditch, copse, &c., the skirmishers should at once make for it, and aid the supports by a cross fire.

26. Even in the most sudden rush of cavalry that can happen, when there is neither cover nor time to form the rallying square, the individual firmness and intelligence of the men, should enable them to protect each other.— They should be taught to make formations for defence, however small, against contingencies of this nature; two files uniting in the first instance back to back, then three and four files, and so on; this practice will teach them to make the best use of their numbers, whatever they may be; and a skirmisher should be taught to know and feel that, *individually*, a man on foot, with a loaded musket and bayonet in his hand, ought to be a match for any horseman. To face the danger with firmness and steadiness, is, in the smallest bodies, and in the worst emergencies, the safest course.

Advanced Guard.

General intention of advanced guards.

1. Advanced guards are formed for the purpose of feeling the way through a country in front of a column, or the columns of an army—to gain intelligence of the enemy, and to give timely notice of his vicinity or approach, in order that the main body may have time to prepare either for making or repelling an attack.

General rules applicable to all.

2. The general rules and principles, however, which should govern the one, are, with a few obvious exceptions, applicable to all. To guard against surprise or unexpected collision with the enemy—to watch his motions, or to gain intelligence of his situation—and to cover and conceal the movements and formation of the main body—are manifestly the great leading principles upon which advanced guards should be conducted, whether the object be to fall suddenly on the enemy's piquets, to dislodge him from a post, or merely to give warning of his vicinity. Vigilance, and a careful study of localities, are in every case the mainsprings of success.

Precautions to be observed in approaching a village.

3. An advanced guard, on approaching a village must proceed with great precaution if feeling for an enemy. The reserve and advanced parties on the road must be halted beyond the reach of musketry from the village, while long flanking parties are sent round the outskirts, as to threaten the rear. The corporal's party on the road may then move on, in single files, with a considerable interval between them, followed by as many files in succession, from the support, as may be deemed expedient; and the supports and reserve will move forward when it has been ascertained that the place is not in the occupation of the enemy. The leading files should be instructed that the first object to be sought for in a village, is the church, from the belfry of which a view of the surrounding country may be gained.

Similar precautions to be observed previous to entering a defile or hollow way.

4. The head of an advanced guard must never commit itself by entering a defile, or hollow way, without previously occupying the heights on either side by flanking parties. When the heights are thus crowned, the leading party on the road will send on a single file, which will be followed by others in succession, near enough to keep the preceding one in view—the flanking parties on either hand continuing to precede the centre until the defile is passed, when they will gradually fall back to

General in approaching villages, woods, bogs and passable ground every kind to be carefully examined.

The commander in advance guard to serve everything him and to be distinct and accurate in reports.

Conduct of detached parties and patrols falling in an enemy.

The advanced guard should invariably reform and dislodge the enemy from any

Utility of patrols.

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General rule in approach- ing villages, woods, &c. Bogs and im- passable ground of every kind to be careful- ly examined.

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Conduct of detached parties and patrols in falling in with an enemy.

The advanced guard should invariably re-form after dislodging the enemy from any post.

Utility of patrols.

their former stations, and the whole move forward in the original formation.

5. The woods, villages, and generally every object capable of affording concealment to an enemy, will invariably be turned, and the rear threatened previous to being *felt* in front.

6. Should the advanced guard meet with bogs or other impassable ground of any extent, they must not leave it between themselves and the column, without careful examination; otherwise they might leave an enemy concealed within the chain, and not only risk being cut off themselves, but compromise the safety of the column.

7. The commander of an advanced guard should endeavour to observe every thing himself, taking especial care that any reports he may have to make are clear, decided, and correct.

8. No specific rules can be laid down for the conduct of an advanced guard in every case of falling in with an enemy. It cannot, however, be too strongly impressed on all employed on services of this nature, that nothing is more dangerous or reprehensible than offensive or defensive measures undertaken in an isolated manner; advanced parties and patrols should never, therefore, be suffered to engage of their own accord, if it can possibly be avoided; but, as before remarked, they should on the first appearance of an enemy, either fall back under cover, or hide themselves on the spot (making a signal to the rear) according as he may be coming on or stationary—in either case securing all the advantages of a surprise.

9. No advanced guard or detached party of any kind, after carrying a post, should ever be permitted to advance without re-forming. The men should on no account pursue the flying enemy, but re-form rapidly, and wait for further orders.

PATROLES.

1. The object of a patrol is to obtain intelligence, and to ascertain the presence of an enemy. They are detached to examine houses, copses, inclosures, &c., near the line of march, capable of affording concealment to the enemy, and too distant to be inspected by the advanced or flanking parties. All heights from which a

A patrol
never com-
mits itself
in action.

The rules
laid down for
advanced
guards apply
equally to
patroles.

*To ascend a
hill.*

General in-
tention of
rear guards.

view of the surrounding country can be obtained, should also be ascended by patroles, precaution being used to see every thing, if possible, without being seen.

2. It is a rule, therefore, that a patrol never commits itself in action, if it can be avoided, but retires (under cover if possible) as soon as the requisite information is received.

3. The rules laid down for the conduct of an advanced guard, in approaching places capable of concealing an enemy, apply with equal force, although upon a smaller scale, to a patrol. The house, or object to be searched, should, in the first place, be turned by one or two files on either side, and beyond the certain range of musketry; and this movement of itself will in most cases, induce the enemy to leave it; whereas, if the approach were made in front, it could only be at the certain risk of losing men without an object. When the flanking files have passed the house, so as to command the rear, a file of the patrol advances to examine it, another file remaining behind will watch its motions, and be ready to give assistance, supported by the reserve if required. As soon as the file in advance is satisfied that there is no enemy in the place, one of the men will make a signal by holding up his fire-lock above his head, in a horizontal position, and the rear file will join and move forward as before; the flanking files falling back at the same time to their former places.

4. On coming to a hill the same caution will be observed. The patrol halting at the bottom will detach a file or two, in both directions round the base, before any one is permitted to ascend. A file is then sent to the top with instructions not to show itself upon the summit, but to make its observations from behind the brow, creeping on, or lying down, according to circumstances and the nature of the ground. If no enemy is in sight, a signal as above directed will be made.

Rear Guard.

1. A rear guard is an advanced guard reversed; it covers the retreating column from any sudden assault in the rear, and it prevents the enemy from stealing round, and gaining on the flanks of the main body.—The prevention of straggling is also an important part of the duties of a rear guard.

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Degree of resistance required from a rear guard.

2. The object being that of securing the retreat from interruption or annoyance, resistance will generally cease when that end is gained; but when the pursuit is close and vigorous, every hedge-row, copse, or defile becomes a post, which a rear guard must defend with obstinacy to the last.

Piquets, and their Sentries.

Necessary precautions for an officer ordered upon piquet.

1. An Officer ordered upon piquet must take a close and careful survey of the country he passes over, in marching from the camp or the cantonment to his post, in order that he may defend it properly if attacked and driven back. The strongest points, in his line of retreat, ought to be selected, and noted down if necessary; and the officers mind should be previously made up, as far as possible, upon the best mode of disputing the ground he must retire over.

How posted.

2. The officer intrusted with the posting of a piquet must select its situation near the principal road to be guarded, and behind, if practicable, all cross roads leading into it, and taking especial care to leave no road unguarded on its flanks, by which it might be surprised in its rear. The piquet should as much as possible, be concealed from observation, and where the ground naturally affords neither cover nor protection, the defect must be remedied by artificial means, and the employment of such materials as may be procurable on the spot.

Measures for immediate security.

3. As soon as the piquet arrives on the ground it is to occupy, sentries will be thrown out in elevated situations upon its flanks and front, for *immediate security*, and the officer commanding, *having reconnoitered the neighbourhood of his post, with a strong patrol, in person*, will proceed to form a chain, covering his front and flanks, and communicating with the piquets on his right and left,

Line of Sentries.

4. In selecting the line for the chain of sentries, care must be taken not to extend it too much,—to post the men in the most advantageous situations for observing the roads and country in front, and to keep them as much concealed from the view of the enemy as the nature of their duty will admit. It is very desirable that every elevated spot, which overlooks the communications in the rear, should be taken within the chain of sentries; but if this cannot be effected without extending the

PART IV.

sentries too much, a party must be sent to occupy the height during the day, and care must be taken to support and ensure the retreat of this party if attacked. Sentries must be so placed, moreover as to secure one another from being cut off, and at such distances as to prevent any enemy from passing unperceived between them during the night. Sentries never should be posted near any copse or cover from which a sudden rush might be made upon them; but all woods, ravines, &c. in the neighbourhood of the post, must be watched, and occasionally visited by patrols, to prevent the enemy from assembling, unobserved, a body of troops in the vicinity. No sentry should be placed at such a distance from the piquet, that the report of his musket may not be distinctly heard from it; and he should always have the sentry on his right and left in view, as well as the intermediate ground between them, to prevent the enemy from passing through the chain unnoticed.

5. In order to guard against surprise of every kind, the sentries of an advanced piquet will be invariably posted double, and at night, or in thick or foggy weather, one of them will be always walking to the right, till he approaches the adjoining file, while the other is looking vigilantly out to his front. In this mode they alternately relieve each other. During the day an officer, or non-commissioned officer, should always be kept on the look-out, in the best situation for commanding a view of the country occupied by the enemy.

6. All advanced piquets must have three reliefs.

7. When any thing particular is observed in front during the day, such as any change in the enemy's sentries or piquets, the disappearance of any sentry of our own, any unusual bustle or accession of force in front, troops in motion, or the appearance of a cloud of dust indicating that troops are on the march, or when firing is heard by any sentry, one of the sentries will instantly run in, and report to the officer what he has noticed, taking care to mention the circumstance at any post he may happen to pass on his way.

8. When piquets are attacked, the same rule will be observed as in all other skirmishing, and the detached officers' parties will not run in on the main body, but support the skirmishers; and when compelled to retire, they will, if possible, retreat on the flank of the main

Advanced piquets require three reliefs.

When any thing particular is observed in front, or firing is heard.

When piquets are attacked.

When posted in a village.

First duty of an officer piquet.

A piquet must not shut itself without orders.

Under what circumstances a piquet should retire.

Signals by day.

Flags of truce.

body, and thereby afford mutual support to each other. When a sentry is satisfied that the enemy is moving on to the attack, he should not hesitate to fire at once, although the enemy may be far beyond the range of his musket.

9. If a piquet should be posted in a village, the main body must be placed so as to be behind the junction of all the roads that lead to the enemy's position, the entrances from which must be blocked up, or dug across, with the exception of a small retiring path for the sentries placed in observation in front. Small parties will be placed behind each barricade for its defence.

10. The first care of an officer ought to be the strengthening of his post, by constructing abatis, breast-works, &c. ; and particularly where the defence of a bridge or ford is intrusted to him, he ought never to omit to throw up something of the kind to protect his men, and impede the advance of the enemy. An officer ought not, however, without permission, to block up a main road with other materials than such as are easily removed.

11. A piquet ought not to shut itself up in a house or an enclosure, with the intention of defending itself to the last extremity, unless particularly ordered to do so, or that circumstances may render it necessary at the moment, for the preservation of the party, in expectation of support.

12. A piquet may with safety defend its front as long as its flanks are not attacked, but as soon as the enemy attempts to surround the post, the piquet must begin to retire.

13. Signals may be established by sentries during the day :—for instance—one man holding up his cap on the muzzle of his fire-lock signifies that the enemy's patrol is advancing ; and both men holding up their caps in the same manner, signifies that the enemy is advancing in force.

14. On the approach of a flag of truce, one sentry will advance and halt it at such distance as will prevent any of the party who compose it from overlooking the piquet posts. The other sentry will acquaint the officer commanding the piquet of the circumstance, who will, according to his instructions, either detain the flag

When posted in a village.

First duty of an officer on piquet.

A piquet must not shut itself up without orders.

Under what circumstances a piquet should retire.

Signals by day.

Flags of truce.

PART IV.

of truce at the out-post, until he has reported to the field officer of the day, or he will forward the party blind-folded to the camp, under an escort. If the flag of truce is merely the bearer of a letter or parcel, the piquet officer must receive it, and instantly forward it to head quarters. After having given a receipt, the flag of truce will be required forthwith to depart, and none of the piquet must be suffered to hold any conversation with this party.

Night duties

15. At night the situations of the sentries ought to be changed, and drawn back from their elevated situations, so as to have the highest ground before them; as an object is more easily discerned at night from a low situation, than when looking from a hill. Night sentries will patrol alternately to the front (as well as to the flanks) to a distance of twenty or thirty yards, lying down also with the ear to the ground for the purpose of listening. The tread of men or horses on the march, the noise of artillery in motion, the neighing of horses, &c. are heard at a great distance in the stillness of the night; and not unfrequently the knowledge of an intended attack at day-light may be gained in this way.

Precaution to be used for directing the sentry's attention to the proper quarter.

16. To prevent sentries from looking in a wrong direction during the night, two forked sticks will be placed in the ground, and a horizontal stick be laid across them, so as to point out by looking along it, the situation of the enemy's posts. This precaution is also particularly useful to the sentries of reserve and in lying piquets, directing their attention to the proper quarter.

17. The sentries ought to be relieved every hour during the night.

The countersign only given to the sentries.

18. When a sentry is posted, the countersign only is given him; and no person under the rank of a non-commissioned officer is usually intrusted with the patrol, which serves as a test for passing armed bodies inside the line.

Challenging of a double sentry.

19. The moment a sentry sees or hears any person, he calls out "Halt,"—"Who comes there?" and at the same time brings his fire-lock to the charge, fronting the party; his comrade instantly retires a few paces behind him, uncovering to the right, cocks his piece, and also comes to the charge. This will ensure support to the sentry in advance, and prevent both men from being

Deserters.

Advanced piquets to be under arms an hour before day-light.

When advanced piquets should be relieved. Arrival of the relief.

Duty of the officer of the old piquet.

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committed at the same time, as well as the piquet from being surprised. If the answer is not satisfactory, the leading sentry instantly fires and retires behind his comrade.

20. If more than one individual approach the post, the sentry will, on all occasions, command them to halt, and one man only to advance. If there is the slightest hesitation or more than one attempt to move, the sentry will instantly fire.

Deserters.

21. Sentries must be very distrustful of people who answer the challenge by saying "Deserters;" they must be immediately ordered to lay down their arms in the rear, and not suffered to approach the sentry, until a party arrives from the support to receive them, and then singly. If the suspected person hesitate, the sentry will instantly fire.

22. When a piquet is permitted to have a fire, it should always be as much as possible concealed from observation; and the alarm post of the piquet, in the event of an attack at night, should invariably be fixed at a short distance in the rear of the fire, so as to prevent the piquet from being seen, when drawn up, and compelling the enemy to expose themselves while passing the fire in coming on.

Advanced
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under
arms an
hour before
day-light.

23. Piquets will get under arms in the morning an hour before day light; and if every thing appears quiet in front, the officer will, as soon as he can discern objects distinctly, proceed to occupy the same posts that he held the day before; but he must previously send forward patrols to feel his way, and should any change be remarked in the enemy's posts or position, he will report it immediately to the officer of the day.

When ad-
vanced pi-
quets should
be relieved.
Arrival of
the relief.

24. As attacks are most commonly made about day-break, a desirable accession of force will be always obtained by relieving the piquets at that hour.

25. When the new piquet has arrived, the officer commanding it will accompany the officer of the old piquet along the chain of posts, and this officer will point out the situation and strength of all the enemy's posts, and afford every other information to the relieving officer, in his power.

Duty of the
officer of the
old piquet.

26. When the sentries are relieved, and the weather is sufficiently clear to ascertain that there is no indica-

tion of an attack, the officer who has been relieved will forward a written report to the field officer of the day, fall back upon the reserve piquet, and march to camp in the same order as when he advanced; *but if the advanced piquets should be attacked before he arrives in camp*, he will consider it his duty to face instantly about, and march to their support.

Patrolling.

27. One of the most necessary and effectual methods of preventing surprise, and of gaining information, remains to be noticed, viz. *patrolling*, without which, however active and alert the sentries, the service of the outpost never can be properly fulfilled. The mode of conducting these patrols, their strength, and the distance to which they may be sent, all necessarily depend on the ever varying local circumstances in which piquets may be placed; but it may be laid down as a good general rule, that, when near the enemy, a patrol should be sent out once between every relief during the night.

Vigilance, silence, and circumspection indispensable in patrolling.

28. Vigilance, silence, and circumspection must be strictly enjoined upon all patrols; no noise must on any account be made, and when any thing is to be communicated, it should be done in a whisper.

It is not pretended to lay down exact rules for conducting patrols in every case that may occur on service, but one or two of the most unusual modes of carrying on this important duty may be briefly adverted to.

Patrolling in front of the line of sentries.

29. The patrol, on leaving the piquet, should, when practicable, communicate in the first instance with the next post upon the right (or left), and patrol cautiously along the whole front of the line of sentries, just near enough to see them, and communicating with the next post on the left (or right) return again to the piquet by the rear of the chain. The sentries must not be thrown off their guard by the frequent appearance of these patrols, but be taught to expect an enemy in all who may approach them; some preconcerted signal, or interchange of countersign in a low tone, should be used, and which should be changed at every relief. Should the patrol, in returning along the rear of the sentries, fall in with the enemy, who must in this case have passed through the chain, a continued fire should be kept up to alarm the piquet, and prevent surprise.

When the enemy's posts are distant.

To avoid exchanging shots with the enemy's patrols. A strong patrol to be sent out just before daylight.

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30. Patrols must also be sent along the roads in the direction of the enemy's posts, to such distance as may be deemed expedient. These patrols must be preceded by *feelers*, quick intelligent men selected for that duty, whom no sound will escape, and whose experienced ears will detect the approach of danger long before it reaches them. A patrol must above all things avoid unnecessary firing, or, in other words, *false alarms*: on hearing the approach of footsteps the *feelers* should instantly fall back to the patrol: and should the sounds indicate the advance of a larger body than a patrol, one or two men should be sent back with all haste to inform the officer of the piquet, who will make immediate preparations for defence. The patrol retires steadily and unobserved, if possible, upon the piquet; but if perceived and overtaken by the enemy, an incessant fire must be maintained, in order to apprise the camp that the enemy is coming on in force; although it may safely be inferred, that if the piquets know their duty, and are judiciously drawn up for the defence of the roads, it will be extremely difficult for an enemy, however strong, *having failed in his plan for taking the advanced posts by surprise*, to make head, under all the disadvantages of a night attack, when resolutely opposed by men who know the ground, and whose plans have been previously concerted for disputing those points in their line of retreat where the disparity of numbers must, in the dark, be in a great measure neutralized.

31. In falling in with an enemy's patrol in advance of the chain of sentries, it will always be most prudent to retire at once without exchanging shots, which could only tend to harass and disturb the troops.

32. A strong patrol will always be sent some distance on, towards the enemy's posts, just before day-light, and this patrol, above all others, must proceed with redoubled caution, for fear of falling in with the enemy's columns, waiting for day-light to attack.

33. In the event of an attack, the commander of a piquet must ever bear in mind, that the great object of his efforts is to gain sufficient time to enable the main body in his rear to get under arms and prepare for action. The points he is to dispute in falling back having been previously selected, few cases can occur in which

PART IV.

it will be impossible to attain that end, without endangering the safety of his piquet; but even in an extreme case, he must remember that it is his duty to sacrifice himself, rather than be driven in upon the main body, before it has had time to form.

END OF PART IV.

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Recover
Arms.

Ease spring

Right face.
Lodge arms

N. B.
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Attention.
Fix bayonets
Shoulder
Arms.
Rear rank to
open order.
March.
Open pans.

Slope arms.

Carry arms,
Shut pans.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

Mode to be Observed in Dismissing a Company off Parade.

Recover
Arms.

Bring the fire-lock to the recover, by throwing it briskly out of the left hand, (if with shouldered arms,) the guard to the front, the cock resting against the left breast; the left hand seizes the fire-lock above the lock, and the right hand grasps the small of the butt.

Ease springs.

At this word the fire-lock is kept steady at the recover, the pan thrown open with the thumb of the right hand, and the cock let easy down with the fore finger and thumb of the same hand.

Right face.
Lodge arms.

In the manner prescribed by regulation.

At this word the whole drop their fire-locks smartly to the *port*, the front rank springs off to the left, the rear rank to the right, break off, and quit the parade without noise.

N. B. In turning in a Guard or Piquet, the same mode is to be observed, with the exception of easing springs.

Manner of Inspecting a Company on Parade.

Attention.

As per regulation.

Fix bayonets.

As directed in page 19.

Shoulder

As already directed.

Arms.

Rear rank take
open order.

As already directed.

March.

Open pans.

1st. Bring the right hand across the body, place the fore finger on the face of the pan.

2nd. Force the pan open with the fore finger, turning the back of the hand against the barrel.

3rd. Quit the right hand.

Slope arms.

As directed in page 22.

The inspection of arms is now to take place.

Carry arms.

As directed in page 23.

Shut pans.

1st. Bring the right hand across the body: place the fore finger on the back of the pan-cover, elbow close to the body.

2nd. Force the pan down.

3rd. Quit the hand.

Order arms.

As already directed.

Examine

Arms.

At the word "Examine," slip the thumb in rear of the barrel; at the word "Arms," face to the right, bringing the butt between the feet, sling towards the body, holding the fire-lock with the left hand at the full extent of the arm; draw the ramrod, let it down the barrel, and quit the right hand. When the officer comes within a pace, draw the ramrod and place it on the upper brass, nine inches to the front, fore finger one inch in rear of the brass, elbow square, and arm above the ramrod.

Return

Ramrods.

Return ramrods, shifting the fire-lock on the right side. An inspection of the appointments, clothing &c., is now to be made.

Unfix bayonets

As directed in page 23.

Rear rank take

Close Order.

As before directed.

March.

Stand at ease.

As before directed.

Posting of Sentinels.

The instructor will now post his recruits as sentinels, giving each of them some particular orders to attend to, and instruct them, while on their post, not to allow those orders to be infringed;—that they are not to quit their arms, or walk more than ten yards on each side of their post; that they are never to converse, loiter, or lounge upon their post, nor to remain in their sentry-boxes in good, nor even in moderate weather, but are to move about briskly in a soldierlike manner;—that on the appearance of an officer, they are to stand firm on any part of their walk, paying the compliment due, until the officer has passed, taking care to front the point specially recommended to their observance; that to all field officers and to officers of a superior rank, they must present their arms; to all other officers they are to carry arms. That all guards and sentinels must pay the same compliments to officers of the royal navy and marines, as are directed to be paid to the officers of the army, according to their relative ranks. That although guards do not turn out after sunset to pay compliments, yet sentinels, whenever officers approach their posts, must pay them a proper attention, by standing steady with carried arms, facing to their proper front, nor must this be discontinued until the evening is so far advanced, that they begin challenging and demanding the countersign.

When sentinels are directed to challenge, the recruit must be instructed to do it in a *clear, sharp tone*, pronouncing his words as distinctly as possible. On any one approaching his post, he must challenge them by the words "*Who comes there,*" and at the same moment *port arms*; but if posted where a sudden rush might be made

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upon him, he will at once come to the *charge*—if the person approaching gives a satisfactory reply, the sentinel will direct him to pass;—after the challenge "*Who comes there,*" should the reply be "*Rounds,*" he must instantly demand "*What Rounds,*" if answered "*Grand Rounds,*" and he is posted at the guard house, he must turn out the guard, by calling out, "*Guard, turn out*" remaining steady on his post till the officer has received them and they have passed.

If he is posted elsewhere than at the guard house, after the reply of "*Grand Rounds,*" he must say, "*Stand, Grand Rounds, advance one and give the countersign,*" immediately coming to the "*port,*" in which position he will receive the countersign, after which he must desire them to pass, by saying "*Pass, Grand Rounds, all's well,*"—shouldering his arms at the same time, and presenting as the rounds pass him.

Visiting rounds are received in the same manner by sentinels.

When double sentries are posted, the front one, on challenging, will come to the charge, and the rear one to the port.

The duties of sentinels on out-posts before an enemy, beyond that of vigilance on their posts, and a strict attention to the orders which are given them, can only be learned by practice,—they never pay any compliments.

COMPLIMENTS,

To be paid by non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers to Officers of the Royal Navy, Army, and Marines.

It is considered essential, that, in the case of the non-commissioned officer and soldier, as in the case of the officer, there should be one uniform mode of saluting a superior.

The recruit should accordingly, when at his ordinary drills, be taught to salute his superior in a soldierlike manner.

The following instructions are to be inculcated under this head.

When approaching to speak to an officer, they should be taught to raise the arm to its full extent, at right angles with the body, and when horizontal, (the fingers and thumb being kept together,) to bring the hand to the peak of the cap, keeping the elbow square, the fore finger and thumb feeling the edge of the peak.

When passing an officer, they bring the hand in like manner, to the peak of the cap, commencing when about four paces from him, turning the head and looking the officer in the face and retaining the hand at the peak until he has passed him two paces, when the arm will be brought gradually to the side.

The salute is to be given with the opposite hand to the side on which the officer may be; consequently it will be necessary to practice the salute with the left hand as well as the right.

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TO FIRE A FEU DE JOIE.

THE line drawn up at open order (double distance) with shouldered arms and bayonets fixed.

With blank
Cartridge,
prime & load.

In quick time, as per Regulation.

Ready.

As per regulation.

Present.

Elevated in the air.

The right hand man of the front rank commences the fire, which will run down the front and up the rear, as quick as possible. When the right hand man of the rear rank has fired, the whole will glance their eyes to the right, to bring the fire-lock to the priming position, and when loaded they will remain steady, waiting for the word.

Ready,
present.

As before directed.

The same to be repeated a third time.

After the third fire, the whole will glance their eyes to the right, to bring the fire-locks to the position of prime and load, and half cock together.

Shoulder
Arms.
Shut Pans.
Present arms.
Shoulder
Arms.
Order Arms.

As per Regulations.

Three cheers.

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DIRECTIONS FOR FUNERAL PARTIES.

THE party appointed for the escort, according to the rank of the deceased, is to be drawn up two deep, with open ranks and unfixed bayonets, facing the house, or marquee, where the corpse is lodged; and when it is brought out, the officer commanding will give the following words of command:

PRESENT ARMS.

REVERSE ARMS.

EXPLANATION FOR REVERSING ARMS.

The right hand strikes the butt of the fire-lock, which is turned upwards; the guard turned towards the body; the fire-lock is then placed under the left arm, seizing the cock and hammer with the left fore-fingers and thumb. The right hand is thrown behind the body and grasps the fire-lock; the right heel at the same time is brought to its original position.

The officers' swords are reversed under the right arm: the point of the sword downwards, grasping the hilt with the right hand.

The sergeants' fusils are reversed also under the left arm.

REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE ORDER.

The party will then wheel forwards or backwards by divisions, or sub-divisions, as circumstances may require, and will stand a column the left in front until the procession is ready, when the ranks will be opened by word of command.

MARCH.

The party moves off in slow time, followed by the music, with drums muffled, playing the Dead March.

THE CORPSE.

PALL-BEARERS OF EQUAL RANK WITH THE DECEASED.

CHIEF MOURNERS.

OFFICERS TWO AND TWO.

According to rank, the juniors next to the body of the deceased.

When the first division of the funeral party arrives near the burial-ground, the word of command, "Halt," is given, and the officer

FUNERAL PARTIES.

commanding will order the ranks of the divisions to wheel to the right and left, having been previously told off for that purpose, and facing inwards, forming a lane for the corpse to pass through.

REST UPON YOUR ARMS REVERSED.

EXPLANATION.

The fire-lock is quitted by the right hand and brought to a perpendicular position; the muzzle placed upon the toes of the left foot.—The right and left hands open are placed upon the butt-end of the fire-lock.

The soldier's head leaning on the back of the left hand so as to look towards the corpse.

The corpse, &c., having passed through the lane the word "Attention" is given, on which the soldiers raise their heads.

REVERSE ARMS.

The ranks are then wheeled up, and at "Open order" move in ordinary time, and form in line in the same order, near to and facing the Grave.

The command will then be given,

REST UPON YOUR ARMS REVERSED.

After the performance of the Funeral Service, the following words of command are given :

ATTENTION ;

PRESENT ARMS ;

by seizing the fire-lock with the left hand at the swell, the right hand shifted, and both holding the fire-lock in the position of *presented arms*.

SHOULDER ARMS.

PRIME AND LOAD WITH BLANK CARTRIDGE.

FIRE THREE VOLLIES IN THE AIR.

ORDER ARMS.

FIX BAYONETS.

SHOULDER ARMS.

REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE ORDER.

Wheel backwards by divisions on the left, and march to camp or barracks, the right in front quick time.

In marching back, the music are not to play, or the drums to beat, until the party is entirely clear of the burying-ground.

N. B. *In the funerals of General Officers, the arrangement of the prescribed number of pieces of cannon, and of the different troops, must be made under the superintendence of the General Officer commanding the whole, and must necessarily depend on local circumstances.*

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FIRING.

WHEN the recruit has attained a perfect knowledge of the Platoon Exercise he is to be carefully habituated in TAKING AIM : to this great object too much care and attention cannot be devoted ; it is the means by which the soldier is taught to fire with precision, or, in other words, to *kill his enemy* ; and it cannot be too strongly inculcated, that every man, who has no defect in his eyes, may be made a good shot at a fixed object. The fire-lock is placed in the soldier's hands for the destruction of his enemy ; his own safety depends on his efficient use of it, and no degree of perfection he may have attained in the other parts of his drill can, upon service, remedy any want of proficiency in this : indeed all his other instruction in marching and manœuvring with perfect steadiness and precision, can do no more than place him in the best possible situation for using his weapons with effect. The true principles upon which correct shooting may be taught are extremely simple ; they are to be found in the natural connection that exists between the hand and the eye ; the eye is the guide and regulator of every action of the hand, which can only act the part of a subordinate agent ; and constant practice must therefore be employed to perfect the connection and enable them so to act together that the hand will readily raise the fire-lock in a line with any object that the eye is fixed upon. In training the recruit to the use of his musket, the following instructions are to be carefully attended to.

Aiming at an Object.

The recruit is next practised in aiming at an object. He is to be taught to fix his eye *steadfastly* on the bull's eye, or any other object, and with the left eye shut raise his fire-lock gradually & horizontally from the priming position, until it is accurately aligned. As often as a squad of recruits assembles, this practice will be rigidly persevered in for at least a quarter of an hour previous to being dismissed ; and the men will in this way be as well instructed in levelling as if they were actually practising with ball cartridge ; and instead of only taking aim fifty or sixty times a year (when firing ball) they will go through the very same motions, and with equal advantage, a thousand times a day.

The Traversing Rest.

A traversing rest will be found most useful in teaching the recruit individually the principles of taking aim, and it will also enable the instructor to ascertain at once whether the recruit has any defect in

his eye-sight. The rest is a scooped piece of wood placed on a stand, which receives the fire-lock, and is made to elevate, depress, or traverse at will; several small *bull's eyes* being painted on the barracks, or wall, the recruit at 100 yards is ordered to aim at any one of them. Having done so, he leaves the fire-lock on the stand and removes himself, in order that the instructor may take his place and look along the sight, to point out, and correct, if necessary, any error. The recruit thus taught to level accurately, the stand is set aside, and is on no account to be afterwards used as a rest for taking aim from.

Fixing Flints.

The recruits must be individually taught the true principles which direct the fixing the flint. In fixing flints, no uniform mode should be attempted; the flat side must be placed either upwards or downwards, according to the size and shape of the flint, and also according to the proportion which the cock bears in height to the hammer, which varies in different muskets; this is ascertained by letting the cock gently down, and observing where the flint strikes the hammer, which ought to be at the distance of about one-third from the top of the hammer;—most diligent observations ought at the same time to be made whether every part of the edge of the flint comes in contact with the hammer, so as to strike out the fire from the whole surface. A flint will often appear to the eye to be carefully and skilfully fixed, and to stand firm and square, yet on trial being made as above directed, it will prove to have been very ill fixed, inasmuch as the surface of the hammer in some muskets, does not stand square, but stands a little aslant to the cock. Each particular flint, therefore, requires its own particular method of being fixed, so as to accommodate itself to the particular proportions and conformations of each particular lock. In whatever position the flint should be, it must be screwed in firmly, and the cock should be let down, in order to observe whether the flint passes clear of the barrel.

Whenever a piece has been fired, the first opportunity should be embraced of examining whether the flint remains good, and fixed as it ought to be, and no time should be lost in correcting whatever may be found amiss, which may be done without the recruit falling out of the ranks, by his facing to the right, if he belongs to the front rank, and to the left if belonging to the rear rank, at the same time seizing the stock at the small with the right hand, and letting it fall into the hollow of the left arm, the left hand will then hold the fire-lock at the lock, and at the same time assist the right in any alteration which may be requisite with the flint. In this position the recruits may also be practised in taking off and putting on their locks.

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Burning Priming.

The recruit having acquired the habit of readily aligning his fire-lock with any object selected by the eye, he will next be taught to burn priming without winking, or in the slightest degree altering the composure of his countenance. The instructor will give the command slowly, "READY, PRESENT," and *when the recruit has covered his object* he will pull the trigger *by the steady pressure of the finger, and without the smallest jerk*, continuing to cover the object after snapping with the cheek down on the butt, until the word "LOAD" is given. The slightest motion of the arm or wrist in pulling the trigger must be carefully avoided, as it would, in firing, completely change the direction of the ball, and the more accurate the aim, the smaller would, in consequence be the chance of hitting the object aimed at. The instructor must watch the recruit minutely in this practice, which must be continued until the eye is perfectly indifferent to the flash caused by the ignition of the powder.

Blank Cartridge.

The recruit in loading is to be instructed to shake the powder well out of the cartridge, and to ram the paper as wadding home. The instructor will fire each recruit singly by word of command, minutely observing that he fires with perfect composure of countenance and steadiness of body, wrist and eye; the cheek is not to be removed from the butt, or the least motion to be permitted until the word "LOAD" is given. When several recruits are steady in their firing singly, they will be placed first in single rank, that every man may be observed, and two or three men fire together by word of command, each man bringing up his fire-lock slowly at the word "PRESENT," and *when he has covered his object*, pulling his trigger, without reference to the man upon his right or left; afterwards a couple of files will fire two deep, occasionally changing ranks; then the files will be increased by degrees until the platoon fires together.

The rear rank men must be most particularly attended to, to observe that they lock well up and take a steady and deliberate aim at some object in the front. The centre part of a man at 150 yards, is perhaps the best general rule to lay down for aim. Riflemen and Light Infantry firing at long distances, will, of course, receive particular instructions, regulated by the different descriptions of sights in use. The practice with blank cartridge must be continued until the recruit becomes perfectly firm and motionless at the explosion and recoil, without which it would be a mere waste of ammunition to commence firing with ball.

Ball Firing.

Firing at a target being one of the most essential parts of infantry instruction, it is important that all ranks shall be perfectly acquainted with the theory.

The ball cartridge is scrupulously reserved for the purpose of *proving* the recruit's progress or proficiency in shooting; with this view three or four ball cartridges are given to him, and he is placed before the target, which in the first instance should be round and eight feet in diameter, at the distance of thirty yards or even nearer, so that it will be almost impossible for him to miss it. This method is intended to produce confidence in the young soldier, and to shew him that his fire-lock will carry true if accurately aligned; should the recruit prove by his practice that he has not acquired the habit of taking aim correctly, he must on no account be permitted to go on with the useless expenditure of ammunition, but be sent back to *aiming drill*, and be continued practising to level until he has got over the deficiency; his whole attention should be exclusively directed to this object; and he will soon find it to be for his own interest and advantage to become an expert marksman, for no soldier should ever be considered as dismissed from drill, or fit to take his place in the ranks, until he has shown himself to be a good shot.

Should the recruit however, prove that he understands the principles of taking aim, the range will be increased by degrees to 50, 80, or 100 yards at the same target; and when the recruits can individually shoot well at these distances, the instructor will fire them by files, increasing the distance from 50 yards upwards, changing ranks occasionally—then by sections—and lastly by platoons.

The recruit will now practise at a target 6 feet by 2 as the last of his drill. This target will be divided by black lines into three compartments, *upper, centre, and lower* divisions, (the centre division having a bull's-eye of eight inches diameter in its centre, surrounded at two inches distance by a circle of an inch broad,) and be placed at a range of eighty yards, which distance will be increased, as improvement takes place, to one hundred, one hundred and fifty, and two hundred yards; the instructor taking care to point out the necessity of the gradual elevation of the musket, as the distance beyond its point-blank range is increased.

In the beginning of the practice the recruit is to be made to fire 2 or 3 times running, due care being taken to correct the faults which may have been remarked in the position of the body, or in that of the musket.

The rank and file of each company to be divided into three classes :

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the first class will comprehend the best marksmen; the second class the next best; and the third all the rest.

No man to be returned as sufficiently instructed, until he shall have been admitted into the first class.

The above division of the target is necessary, in order to correct any soldier's general line of fire, by referring to former practice reports where his shots have been inserted; as for instance, "always fire low," &c. The reports must be correctly copied into a book kept by each company for the purpose, and signed by the officer who superintended the practice, according to the following form:—

*Report of the Target Practice of Captain ———'s Company on the
—— day of ——*

No Rank and Names	Distance 150 yds.			Distance			Distance			Total Hits.	Total Misses.	No. of Rounds.	REMARKS.
	Hits			Hits			Hits						
	1st class.			2d class.			3d class.						
	Upper.	Centre.	Lower.	Upper.	Centre.	Lower.	Upper.	Centre.	Lower.				
1 Corp. James Day.	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	5	Hit at Upper Division, fired at 200 yards. Outer circle.
1 Do. John Boyle.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	2	3	5	
1 Priv. B. Carter.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	4	5	
2 Do. John Cole.	.	.	.	1	1	2	.	.	.	4	1	5	Bull's eye.
Total. . . .	1	.	2	1	3	2	1	.	.	10	10	20	

(Signed)

J. D.——, Captain.

N. B. This Form will enable any Commanding Officer to judge of the proficiency of his Companies, and any General of his battalions, by comparison with others.

It is most important that soldiers should be accustomed to judge of distances correctly; that they should know how far their fire-locks will carry point blank, and also the exact degree of elevation that is required in order to hit objects at different distances beyond that point-blank range. They should, therefore, be trained to a know-

ledge of distances on every kind of ground, and be at all times prepared to answer correctly the following simple questions :—

1. What is the point blank range of your fire-lock or rifle ?
2. Does it carry to the right or left ?
3. How many yards distant are you from such an object ?
4. What is the requisite degree of elevation in order to enable you to hit the body of a man at 120, 150, 200, &c. yards.

MAN

Of carrying
the Rifle.

Present
Arms.
Three Mo-
tions.

Shoulder
Arms.
Two Mo-
tions.

Order Arms
Three Mo-
tions.

THE
MANUAL AND PLATOON EXERCISES.
 OF
RIFLEMEN.

THE MANUAL EXERCISE.

Of carrying
 the Rifle.

THE rifle is to be carried in the right hand, at arm's length, as in advanced arms, the cock resting upon the little finger, the thumb upon the guard, and fore-finger under it, the upper part of the barrel close in the hollow of the shoulder, and the butt pressing upon the thigh.

Present
 Arms.
 Three Mo-
 tions.

1st. The rifle is to be raised about two inches by the right hand, and brought forward a little from the shoulder, at the same time the left hand is brought briskly across the body, and seizes the rifle with a full grasp, even with the shoulder.

2nd. The right hand brings the rifle even with the face, and opposite the left eye, grasps the small of the stock, turning the lock outwards; the left hand seizes it by the stock, so that the little finger touches the hammer-spring, on a level with the chin, the left elbow close to the butt.

3rd. The rifle is brought in a straight line to the *present*, the cock turned inwards, and even with the bottom of the waistcoat, the right foot at the same instant is drawn back, so that the hollow of it may touch the left heel, the right hand holding the small of the stock between the fore-finger and thumb, the knuckles upwards, the three other fingers shut in the hand.

Shoulder
 Arms.
 Two Mo-
 tions.

1st. The rifle is brought quickly across the body to the right side, the right hand slipping round into the original position when shouldered, the left quits its hold, and seizes the rifle again smartly, even with the right shoulder, at the same time the right foot is brought up in a line with the left.

2nd. The left hand quits the rifle, and is brought as quickly as possible to the position of attention.

Order Arms
 Three Mo-
 tions.

1st. At the word "Arms" the left hand seizes the rifle even with the right shoulder; the rifle, as in the first motion of the *present*, is raised about two inches,

2nd. The right hand quits its hold, grasps the rifle round the muzzle, and brings it gently to the ground, even with the toe of the right foot, the wrist pressing against the side, and elbow as close as possible.

3rd. The left hand is brought as before on the left thigh.

Shoulder
Arms.

At the word "Arms," the rifle is thrown at once into the right shoulder by a jerk of the right hand; the left catches it till the right seizes the rifle in the proper place, and is then instantly brought to its original position on the left thigh; but this must be done with the quickness of one motion.

In the performance of this, as indeed of every other motion, the greatest care is to be taken to prevent the rifle falling to the ground, as it is an arm easily damaged.

Support
Arms.

The rifle is brought across the body with the guard upwards, by bending the right arm; the left hand is laid across the right.

Carry Arms

The rifle is brought smartly on the right side, and the left hand on the left thigh.

Trail Arms.

The left hand seizes the rifle at the second pipe, the right close over the sight, and trails it on the right side at arm's length, the left falls back on the left thigh.

Shoulder
Arms.

The rifle is brought to the shoulder, as from the order,

From the Order to Trail Arms.

Trail Arms.

The right hand seizes the rifle as low as possible, without constraint, then raises and catches it just above the sight.

From the Trail to Order Arms.

Order Arms

The rifle slides gently through the right hand to the ground; when even with the right toe, the right hand again grasps the muzzle.

Fix Bayon-
ets.

The rifle is thrown six inches to the front, the bayonet brought back-handed from the scabbard, locked by the thumb and fore-finger of the left hand, and the rifle brought back quickly to its place.

Shoulder
Arms.

As before.

Charge Bay-
onets.

One Motion

The rifle is brought smartly into the hollow of the right hip, the left hand firmly grasped round the barrel with the thumb in the rear of the sight, the right hand

Shoulder
Arms.
Two Mo-
tions.
Order Ar-
ms.
Unfix Bay-
onets.
One Motion

Stand at
Ease.

Prepare to
Load.

One.

Two.

Three.

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Shoulder Arms.
Two Motions.
Order Arms

Unfix Bayonets.
One Motion

Stand at Ease.

Prepare to Load.

One.

Two.

Three.

clear of the guard, and grasping the small of the butt, the right toe to the right, and the left toe to the front: the rear rank to remain at the shoulder.

1st. The rifle is thrown smartly into the shoulder and steadied as before by the left hand.

2nd. Quit the left hand.

As before.

The rifle is brought briskly between the knees, the lock in and guard out; the bayonet unlocked by the thumb and fore-finger of the left hand, and knocked off by the right, at which time it is returned to the scabbard, directed by the thumb of the left hand on the top of the scabbard, when the rifle and left hand are brought to their proper position.

The muzzle is brought to the front at the extent of the right arm, the elbow resting on the hip, the hollow of the right foot brought in rear of the left heel, and the left knee bent.

PLATOON EXERCISE.

1st. Is the same as the first motion in the *present arms*.

2nd. The soldier half faces to the right, and in the motion brings down the rifle to a horizontal position, just above the right hip; the left hand supports it at the swell of the stock, the elbow resting against the side, the right thumb against the hammer, the knuckles upwards, and elbow pressing against the butt, the lock inclining a little to the body, to prevent the powder from falling out. The officer now warns the men, in going through the loading motions.

To wait for the Words of Command.

At the word,

The pan is pushed open by the right thumb, the right hand then seizes the cartridge with the three first fingers.

The cartridge is brought to the mouth, and placed between the two first right double teeth, the end twisted off and brought close to the pan.

The priming is shaken into the pan; in doing which, to see that the powder is properly lodged, the head must be bent: the pan is shut by the third and little finger, the right hand then slides behind the cock, and holds the small part of the stock between the third and little finger, and ball of the hand.

PLATOON EXERCISE OF RIFLEMAN.

Four.

The soldier half faces to the left : the rifle is brought to the ground, with the barrel outwards, by sliding it with care through the left hand, which then seizes it near the muzzle, the thumb stretched along the stock ; the butt is placed between the heels, the barrel between the knees, which must be bent for that purpose ; the cartridge is put into the barrel, and the ramrod seized with the fore-finger and thumb of the right hand.

Rod.

The ramrod is drawn quite out by the right hand, the left quits the rifle, and grasps the ramrod the breadth of a hand from the bottom, which is sunk one inch into the barrel.

Home,

The cartridge will be forced down with both hands giving two distinct strokes with the rod to ensure its being so ; the left then seizes the rifle about six inches from the muzzle, the soldier stands upright again, draws out the ramrod with the right hand, and puts the end into the pipe.

Return.

The ramrod will be returned by the right hand, which then seizes the rifle below the left.

Shoulder.

The right hand brings the rifle to the right shoulder, turning the guard outwards ; the left seizes it above the hammer-spring till the right has its proper hold round the small of the stock, when the left is drawn quickly to the left thigh.

Make ready

Bring the rifle with one brisk motion in the same position as at the word "Prime and Load" placing the thumb of the right hand on the cock : cock the rifle, then grasp the small of the butt, and place the fore-finger on the swivel nail, three fingers grasping the guard, right foot drawn back.

Present.

Raise the rifle to the present with the fore-finger within the guard ready to fire ; in this too much pains cannot be taken to prevent the recruit from raising his rifle with a jerk, it must be sufficiently raised so high that he may lay the right cheek on the butt, without too much stooping the head ; particular care must be taken that the recruit in this position shuts the left eye in taking aim, the use of the sights being previously explained, and takes his object.

No word of command given to fire.

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